ENTERTAINMENT / F1
Famas splinter group to give out Maria Clara awards

SPORTS / A30
9th-inning homer sends Detroit Tigers to World Series

LIFESTYLE / D1
Lea Salonga performs for traumatized kids

INFOTECH / B8
A slice of Mobile Philippines' technology Eden

Telenovelas win TV hearts across globe

CANNES, FRANCE—True love is making a comeback on the television screen, winning the hearts of audiences around the globe.

It's also making big bucks for some of the world's leading program

TELENOVELAS A8

PHILIPPINE DAILY
INQUIRER
BALANCED NEWS, FEARLESS VIEWS

Monday, October 16, 2006 ★★ 7 sections / Vol. 21 / No. 310 P18 www.inq7.net

Muslim scholars cite Pope's factual errors

PARIS—SENIOR ISLAMIC SCHOLARS, TAKING up Pope Benedict's call for a frank dialogue, have written him an open letter listing factual errors in his recent speech on Islam that sparked protests across the Muslim world.

The 38 experts, including grand muftis from the Muslim world and scholars based in Britain and the United States, said they accepted the

PESSIMISM A8

Go win-win, court urged on test leak

Labor chief calls for conciliatory approach

By Lolo B. Salvorria and Christine O. Avendaño

ENTRUSTED WITH THE task of defusing a controversy affecting thousands of aspiring new nurses, Labor Secretary Arturo Brion yesterday called for a "win-win" solution and said the Court of Appeals could do its bit by promoting a "conciliatory approach" to the problem.

Brion told the Inquirer that his plan for resolving the nursing examination leakage issue—which would involve a meeting of the various stakeholders—had the approval of President Macapagal-Arroyo and Executive Secretary Eduardo Ermita.

Brion said he would settle the Court of Appeals today to formally broach his plan.

But closing the book on the emotionally charged leakage issue would not mean that the Professional Regulation Commission was in the clear, Brion indicated.

He said the PRC would still be investigated to determine whether its officials had any administrative liability for the leakage.

But he added such a probe would come after the resolution of the leakage controversy and after the next nursing licensure examination in December.

"This (the PRC) is not a top priority at the moment," Brion said in a phone interview.

What concerns the government at present is putting closure to a scandal that

GO WIN-WIN A10

BANGLADESHI Nobel Peace Prize winner Muhammad Yunus is hugged by his daughter Dina after receiving news of his award. The "banker to the poor" expressed his "pride" at winning for Bangladesh and the recognition it has brought his microcredit bank. AFP

NOBEL PEACE LAUREATE

'It's possible to eradicate poverty'

CHITTAGONG, BANGLADESH—NOBEL Peace laureate and microcredit pioneer Muhammad Yunus on Sunday vowed to make poverty history as he unveiled new plans to transform the fortunes of Bangladesh's poor.

"I think it's quite possible to eradicate poverty from this world. I think we can halve this poverty level in Bangladesh by 2015. And in the next 15 years we can rid this land of it," Yunus said after he was named the country's first-ever Nobel winner.

Yunus and his Grameen Bank, which offers tiny loans to very poor borrowers to help them become self-employed, were jointly awarded the prestigious Nobel Peace Prize on Friday.

The bank, which targets women because it believes they are better than men at managing family finances, has given small loans to more than 6.6 million people since its inception in 1976.

"You change the environment, and we will lift thousands and millions of people out of poverty. They don't need any grant to change their life," said Yunus, who is known as the poor's banker.

"People have this power in them. You remove the lid of the hidden power and poor people will automatically change their lives," he added.

Yunus has unveiled a string of new initiatives—including health insurance for the poor, as well as information technology, solar energy and organic fertilizer projects.

IT'S POSSIBLE A11

$42 loan changed poor woman's life

DHAKA, BANGLADESH—A TINY Grameen Bank loan to buy a cow was a lifeline for 32-year-old Margina who was once so poor she could not afford to eat. She now runs a successful rice business.

Like millions of others, Margina saw her life transformed through a 3,000-taka ($42) loan from the Grameen Bank founded by Mohammad Yunus, who was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize on Friday for lifting millions out of poverty through his pioneering concept of microcredit.

"When I first started borrowing from Grameen Bank 12 years ago, I was very

$42 LOAN A11

Muslims start 10-night peace vigil as blast rocks Jolo

By Nash B. Maulana and Ed General
Inquirer Mindanao

COTABATO CITY—CHANTING THE word "peace" at least 80 times, Muslims yesterday launched a 10-night prayer vigil, even as a bomb explosion rocked a police camp in Jolo, wounding three people.

The Muslims' call for peace also came as police, in a separate incident yesterday, defused a homemade bomb found three hours before it was timed to explode near a public market in Pagadian City.

The Jolo blast occurred at 7 p.m. in an alley between the Peace Keepers Inn and the Western Mindanao Command Hospital, both inside the Philippine National Police's Camp Asturias.

Authorities have placed some areas of Mindanao under "extreme critical alert"—the highest of a four-step public terror warning system—after three bombings last week, including a powerful blast that killed six people and wounded about 30 others last Thursday during a fiesta in Makilala town in North Cotabato.

Datuda (The Learned) Bansel Ebrahim, a member of the Assembly of Philippine Da'wul Ifta (House of Opinion), said the nightlong prayers signified the Muslims' aspirations for peace and for the blessings of Allah.

The prayer vigil is part of the Muslims' observance of Ramadan, the ninth in the 12-month lunar Hijrah calendar, when they fast from dawn to sunset.

In their Friday sermons, the muftis—or

MUSLIMS A6

RICARDO de los Santos: One of the students at the special computer school.

BYGONE PAST A9

Blind techies study musical transcription

By Vuli Contreras

A BLIND PERSON CAN NOW DO "My Way" his way.

The next time you sing along to a ringtone (track or download) a cell phone ring tone, you may be enjoying the product of techie talents who cannot even see.

Four such individuals are currently studying "musical transcription" at a special computer school which, for over a decade now, has placed some 350 visually impaired Filipinos in highly competitive jobs that even the sighted may find daunting.

It is the latest course offering from Active, a nonprofit organization that has produced the country's first blind computer programmer, its first blind stockbroker specialist, and Asia's first blind medical transcriptionist.

Active stands for Adaptive Tech-

BLIND A9

ILOILO MASS BURIAL
Priests bless the coffins during the mass burial of 12 people who died when a jeepney fell off an overflow bridge into the Tangyan River in Igbaras, Iloilo, on Oct. 2. (Story on Page A/12.)
ARNOLD ALMACEN/INQUIRER VISAYAS

Security Council OKs sanctions on N. Korea

UNITED NATIONS—THE UN Security Council has voted unanimously to impose strict sanctions on North Korea for its reported nuclear test, overcoming objections from Russia and China to explicitly excluding the threat of military force.

But North Korea's neighbors were divided over measures that were meant to punish the communist regime, with Japan and Australia preparing harsher moves, South Korea intent on dialogue and China refusing certain actions.

The divergent responses foreshadow what analysts predict will be a rocky road toward enforcing the global crackdown on Pyongyang following what it said was North Korea's first-ever atomic bomb test last week.

Saturday's resolution, drafted by the United States, clears the way for the toughest international action against North Korea since the end of the Korean War.

Primarily, it bars the sale or transfer of materials that could be used to make nuclear, biological and chemical weapons or ballistic missiles, and it bans international travel and freezes the overseas assets of people associated with the North's programs.

In its most debated clause, the resolution authorizes all countries to inspect cargo going in and out of North Korea to detect illicit weapons.

That power was the sticking point in days of what the Russian ambassador called "tense negotiations" with China and Russia that continued up until just minutes before the final vote early Saturday afternoon.

Less than an hour after joining in the council vote to approve the resolution, the Chinese ambas-

SECURITY A17

A1
PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
MONDAY, OCTOBER 16, 2006

WEATHER FORECAST

Second FRONTPAGE

Raps poised over 2 Indons in bombings

By Alexis Papa

THE PHILIPPINE NATIONAL POLICE IS SET TO file murder charges against two Indonesian leaders of the al-Qaida-linked terror group Jemaah Islamiyah for the spate of bombings last week in Mindanao that left eight people dead and several dozen wounded.

Named in the police complaint were Indonesian Dulmatin and Umar Patek. To be charged with them are Rezki Usman, reportedly a nephew of former Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF) chair Hashim Salamat, and six unnamed guerrillas.

Two counts of murder and multiple frustrated murder will be brought against the nine for the explosion on Tuesday in Tacurong City, Sultan Kudarat, where two people died and two others were wounded, according to Chief Supt. Gennaro Doria, PNP Region 12 commander.

Similar charges will be filed against them for the bombing in Makilala, North Cotabato, where six people were killed and 17 others were injured, also on Tuesday.

"We have witnesses and pieces of evidence pointing to them (Dulmatin and Patek) as the ones who ordered the bombings," said Doria in a phone interview.

Dulmatin and Patek are considered to be the brains behind the deadly bombings in Bali, Indonesia, in 2002 that left more than 200 people, mostly tourists, dead. They are among the objects of a military manhunt in Jolo, that also includes Abu Sayyaf leader Khaddafy Janjalani.

Based on the evidence police have gathered, Doria said it was Dulmatin and Patek who ordered Usman to carry out the bombings last week. In turn, Usman coordinated with local terror cells in carrying out the attacks.

"We are continuously working with the DOJ [Department of Justice] to ensure an airtight case against them," said Doria.

He added that as of yesterday, police investigators were finalizing the sworn statements of witnesses and consolidating evidence to pin down the suspects.

Usman's alleged participation in the bombings had prompted North Cotabato Gov. Manny Piñol to accuse the MILF leadership of masterminding and carrying out the bombings.

But Eid Kabalu, Secretary Ampatuan Cmte. 6 has said the involvement of the MILF was mere "speculation" and called on other sectors to stop accusing the MILF since this would only aggravate the situation in Mindanao. The talks bogged down on the issue of "ancestral lands."

Armed Forces officials had earlier tagged the ASG and the JI as the principal suspects in the bombings.

They said this was a group launched out the attacks in retaliation for the arrest of Dulmatin's wife Istiadah Dewiat Syoni and her two children and to divert attention from the ongoing military operations against them in Jolo.

The Ultimate
xpression of Comfort.

Face it. there's nothing like knowing you own the best.
Whether it is aesthetics or the latest in technology.
Breathing clean air or really silent cooling. What may be regarded as the ultimate air conditioning system is the best reward you can give yourself.

technology

The ultimate in accessorizing your home.
Not a beautiful. Not is the ultimate design in air conditioning systems.
A Flat Panel means there are no edges in the grill that can gather dust or grime.
A Flat Panel blends in with the elegant interior design and ambiance of your home or place of business.

The ultimate in intelligent cooling.

reliability

The Carrier Xpression is not just born but sublimated too. Here a whole engineering is at its best.
It has a 4mm Super-Conductive Lanced Fine Wave Fin surface that speeds up the rate that heat is taken out of any room. Moreover that slows down the ability to absorb additional heat rates right off the coils of this Xpression's Hydrophilic Evaporator. The Turbo Cool and Powerful Mode features enable the unit to go full blast, cooling a room in less than 60 seconds.

durability

The ultimate in breathing clean.
Not just a lot of cool air, but a lot of clean, cool air. The Carrier Xpression has Executive features designed just to do that. A Washable Anti-Mold Filter screens out harmful mold, dust and pollen. A Photo-Catalytic Filter removes harmful gases and chemicals in the air. A Charcoal Filter neutralizes cooking odor and cigarette smoke. An Electrostatic Dust Collector collects airborne allergens like dust mites, pollen and dog dander. And an Anti-Bacterial Blower Fan and Triple Fin protect the growth of bacteria and fungi.

your money's worth

The ultimate in rewarding yourself.
The Carrier Xpression is in itself the ultimate assurance of quality in air conditioners. And no one deserves this more than yourself. So go ahead. Indulge yourself. The Carrier Xpression is truly your own just reward.

xpression 4.0 Hi-wall
available in 1.0, 1.5, 2.0 and 2.5 HP

SPLITS by CARRIER It's about time.

Carrier
No. 1 in air conditioning

Weeklong march vs Cha-cha to end at Mendiola

By Michael Lim Ubac

MILITANTS FROM METRO MANILA, CENTRAL Luzon and Southern Tagalog will launch today a weeklong street protest to oppose the administration's revived bid to convert Congress into a constituent assembly (Con-Ass) to amend the Constitution.

The Kilusang Magbubukid ng Pilipinas said yesterday that thousands of farmers from Central Luzon and Southern Tagalog were ready for the long march dubbed "Martsa ng Masang Anakpawis Laban sa Kahirapan, Pambubusalo at Pamumulubi" (Toiling Masses' March Against Poverty, Oppression and Killings).

The march will culminate on Mendiola Bridge [illegible] Budget on Friday to coincide with the 34th anniversary of Presidential Decree 27, or the Ferdinand Marcos' land reform program, which was signed a month after the late strongman declared martial law in 1972.

Anakpawis party-list Rep. Joel Kilusang Magbubukid ng Pilipinas chair Rafael Mariano said the march would "highlight the opposition of the Filipino peasantry and rural poor to the Arroyo government's Charter change scheme which will only result in massive disenfranchising in the countryside."

Bautista said the start of the march, which will coincide with the celebration of World Food Day today, was the farmers' response to the House majority's decision to tackle Charter change resolutions when Congress resumes session on Nov. 6.

Senate President Franklin Drilon said Saturday that after the passage of the proposed P1-trillion 2007 budget, the House was ready to make a big push for Cha-cha.

Administration Representative Isidro Ungab and Masbate Dominguez said the budget's passage had given the chamber adequate time for Cha-cha.

Speaker Jose de Venecia, the brains behind the move to change the form of government to a parliamentary system, said the House plenary would start tackling Con-Ass should the people's initiatives, a petition move bankrolled by Bgen. ret. Reynaldo Lee, is directly annoyed the Constitution, be junked by the Supreme Court.

'Rebellion charges mere propaganda'

FORMER AMBASSADOR ROY SEVERES ON Saturday dismissed as mere propaganda the filing of rebellion charges against him and 49 others, including former Sen. Gregorio Honasan and ex-Scout Ranger commander Brig. Gen. Eduardo Ano.

In a telephone interview, Severes, a lawyer, said he doubted the National Bureau of Investigation and the Criminal Investigation and Detection Group could make their case against him with.

"The quantum of evidence must be proven beyond a reasonable doubt. There should be probable cause," he said, noting that in his case, he only advised Lim to withdraw support from President Macapagal-Arroyo, something which was not illegal.

"I only advised him to withdraw support from the President and I did not even request him to follow it," he said, adding that there was also not a strong case against Lim.

"The case of General Lim only amounted to withdrawal of support, which is not a crime," he said.

According to the former diplomat, the NBI and CIDG seemed to have deliberately thrown a weak case to the Department of Justice.

"It seems the move was only aimed at generating media mileage," he said.

Severes also denied giving a statement to the NBI linking top businessmen to the aborted Feb. 24 coup plot.

In its complaint, the NBI said Severes had linked former Executive Secretary Oscar Orbos, former Defense Secretary Renato de Villa, ABS-CBN chair Antonio "Tonypet" Cojuangco, businessman Ricardo Puno Cruz Jr. and tycoon Hugo Zobel to the failed coup.

The businessmen, however, were not included in the rebellion complaint. Arsenio N. Mosses

Stand up against poverty today

FOR THE FIRST TIME, the United Nations office in the Philippines has organized rock concerts, exhibits and festivals in several towns and cities to get people involved and help eradicate poverty by 2015.

Activities started yesterday and will last until tonight.

Scheduled this morning are simultaneous street-dancing activities at Makati, as well as in selected public schools, where officials and students will take a pledge of commitment to eradicate poverty.

"Hopefully, this will encourage our leaders to fulfill their promises," said Rudi Rosenfeld, country manager of the program with the long name and eight ambitious goals.

The program, "Tayo-Tayo Labas sa Kahirapan, Tapatin and MDGs (Stand Up Against Poverty, Stand Up for the Millennium Development Goals)," is part of a worldwide campaign of the United Nations to remind member-countries of the global vow to eradicate poverty which they declared in the Millennium Development Goals in 2000.

8 targets

According to Rosenfeld, the goals have eight "time-bound, concrete and specific targets to halve extreme poverty by 2015."

The goals are: Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger; achieve universal primary education; promote gender equality and empower women; reduce child mortality; improve maternal health; combat the spread of HIV, severe diseases (infectious syndrome (MDS), malaria and other diseases; ensure environmental sustainability; and develop global partnerships for development.

The responsibility for fulfilling the goals does not fall solely on the government, according to Rosenfeld.

"We are asking people to go out of their comfort zones and choose an advocacy where they could choose their time, effort and resources," she said.

Have fun

By holding fun activities, Rosenfeld said she hoped the youth would become aware of the need to eradicate poverty.

During the activities, people will be asked to stand up—literally—to show they are against poverty while an enabling law will do a local Gold. Hopefully, a record of sorts will be established for possible submission to the Guinness Book of Records.

There will also be exhibits and programs in Baguio City, Los Baños, Subic, Batangas, Tarlac, Iloilo and Cebu. There will be a rock concert and a carnival show at the Marikina City Freedom Park this afternoon, where bands and artists from different parts of Luzon will perform. Edson C. Tandoc Jr.

Cash for your trip to Boracay.

Fast. Easy. No collateral.

Get a chance to Win a Ford Focus

From August 23 to October 31, 2006 get a CitiFinancial loan and get a chance to win a Ford Focus 1.6L or a fabulous trip to Boracay or Palawan.

Call CitiFinancial now at 750-0322 or Text CASH & send to: 2327 for Globe or 0917-890-2327 for Smart & Sun Cellular.

PERSONAL LOANS

citi financial

A member of citigroup

OUR 24TH ANNIVERSARY BLOWOUT!

BUY 1 TAKE 1 ON DIAMOND PEEL

from October 16-21, 2006 only.

Turn back the clock. Look 5 years younger. Recapture that soft, smooth, flawless skin you once had. You can with Diamond Peel...

- Reduce fine lines and wrinkles
- Fade acne scars, age spots and other blemishes
- Even out skin color and give it a healthy, youthful glow
- Refine pores and prevent breakouts
- Give your skin renewed elasticity and suppleness

Get back that beautiful, glowing skin with the Diamond Peel. Everyone who has tried it just can't get enough of it. Find out why. Call Facial Care NOW.

CALL 892-SKIN (7546)

facial care CENTRE

MAKATI ORTIGAS TOMAS MORATO BINONDO ALABANG SHAW CORPORATE PAMPANGA

After Edsa, billboards on Commonwealth next to go

By Leila B. Salaverria

AFTER EDSA, THE DEPARTMENT of Public Works and Highways will shift the focus of its campaign to remove illegal and hazardous billboards to Commonwealth Avenue, Quezon City, another busy thoroughfare that is considered the most dangerous road to motorists.

The DPWH expects to finish the dismantling of illegal billboards along Edsa and on stretches of the Metro Park Transit later this week and will subsequently move on to Commonwealth Avenue, said Emmanuel Centeno, director of the National Building Code Development Office of the DPWH.

Centeno said the DPWH was to today its campaign on billboards installed along national roads and near densely populated areas since the monstrous steel structures still posed a threat to people and property in case they topple over or collapse as motorist the recent typhoon.

After removing the billboards along busy thoroughfares in Metro Manila, the DPWH would then dismantle the outdoor advertisements along the South and North Luzon Expressways, Centeno added.

The DPWH has been ordering Green Stripe and Salakniban billboards in compliance with an administrative order issued by President Macapagal-Arroyo after several billboards collapsed due to the strong winds spawned by Typhoon "Milenyo" on Sept. 22.

One person died and seven followed fell on his vehicle while several others were injured. Several vehicles and pedestrians were also damaged after billboards collapsed on them.

The campaign against billboards, however, has not been without its glitches.

The advertising firm EDSA-Ad-vertising Unlimited had secured a temporary restraining order from the Quezon City Regional Trial Court blocking the DPWH's removal of its billboard at Greenhills Avenue in the MRT-3/MA Guevarra corridor issued from the local security forces.

The firm said the DPWH violated its right to property.

WOMAN POWER
Members of militant women's groups hold a demonstration to celebrate the "World Rural Women's Day" at the Quezon Memorial Circle in Quezon City yesterday.

Participating Dealers:
Astrovision · Abenson · Western · Blade · Spectra · The Listening Room · Echo · Soundroom · Desmark

Participating Credit Cards (where available):

DOH to monitor Guimaras folk's health for 5 yrs

By Marcelo S. Rivera

SOME 1,000 RESIDENTS OF Guimaras, outplayed by Petron Corp. to clean up the island's shores that were contaminated by the massive oil spill in August, will be undergoing regular medical tests for the next five years, it has been announced.

The Department of Health is designing a system to monitor the residents who were exposed to hydrocarbons which, it might even go counter to petroleum products, during the cleanup that started two months ago.

Health Secretary Francisco Duque III announced the move after a series of demonstrations among residents of the municipalities. "We are now designing the system for prospective monitoring of the 1,000 employee-volunteers from workers," said Dr. Yolanda Oblena, director of the DOH's National Center for Disease Prevention and Control.

She will monitor them for three to five years ... to check blood cancers (a specific physical exam used to measure the progress of a condition) in the blood and for effects of their cleanup work," she said.

Oblena, who spoke at the launching of the National Implementation Plan for the reduction of persistent organic pollutants (POPs) in Quezon City and the effects of organic exposure like pesticides, solids and are considered POPs.

She said the DOH wanted to make sure that the workers were free from both acute and chronic health problems existed in their exposure to the toxic gas. The research team had already talked to 500 persons and made 29 others sick.

Top five

The top five clinical complaints in Barangay Cabalagnan, La Paz and Tando were dizziness (662 persons), headaches (562), respiratory tract infection (345 persons), and coughs (261), according to a DOH-UP report that was used as a basis for the counter-measures.

The report also said that 42 residents from ages 1 month higher than the US Environmental Protection Agency Permissible Standard have been found to have elevated levels of hydrocarbons in the air in Cabalagnan, Tando and Lo Paz. The hydrocarbon level was 13.2 to 160 ppm.

Jes Sierra Valencia, Guimaras' some 44 families were evacuated from their homes along the shore after August rains released high levels of toxicity.

The families are staying in evacuation centers and work in Petron's clean-up operations. They have food and a steady and adequate supply of drinking water.

Dirty water

During their first week, they were provided with purified water, but now they get their supply from their town's water system.

Evacuees said the five-gallon per week supply per family was not enough. Sometimes, the water was smoky forcing them to get water from the Tando village well.

Local officials had earlier warned residents not to drink water from wells after tests showed a high level of toxins. They said residents could only return to their homes after the affected areas are declared safe.

Petition

International environment watchdog Greenpeace is calling on concerned citizens to sign its online "Petron, stop this spill now!" petition.

The group wants to pressure the giant oil company to immediately take steps to remove its contaminated spilling bunker fuel from the waters of Guimaras Island.

The MT Solar 1 carrying 2.1 million liters of Petron bunker fuel sank on Aug. 11 in the Bulusan Strait and subsequently released it fuel into the sea. Petron estimated it had lost 500,000 to 700,000 liters (3.15 million of the two million liters of bunker fuel it was carrying.

An estimated 200 liters were in the fish farms, the rainbow ship every day.

According to the government, retrieval of the oil were dependent on whether or not the International Oil Pollution Compensation (IOPC) will approve the compensation of the siphoning of the oil from the sunken vessel.

The IOPC will meet on the decision sale on Oct. 23. If approved, retrieval is expected to begin early in December.

The petition can be found at the Greenpeace website at www.greenpeace.org.ph. With Inquirer 8 Bargas Jr., Jocelyn Montes and Delfin T. Mallari Jr., Inquirer Southern Luzon

Filipino artists to paint longest canvas for record

By Denise Cabaca
Inquirer Northern Luzon

BAGUIO CITY—ARTISTS IN VARIOUS PARTS of the country will simultaneously pick up their brushes today to try and break Iran's record for the longest painting in a continuous canvas.

The artists, who timed the feat during the celebration of National Fish Conservation Week, will try to secure a spot in the Guinness Book of Records.

The artworks will be laid in 15 regions, all at the same time, to beat Iran's 2.4-kilometer mural, said Ronnie Balasting, information officer of the Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources-Cordillera, the agency supporting the activity.

In Baguio City, more than 100 artists have committed to join the seven-meter painting at Burnham Park.

Balasting said the artists, led by members of the On the Spot Artists Association Inc. (OTSAI), wanted to create a mural more than 6-Km long.

He said participants in the regions were tasked to use 200 meters of canvas to paint aquatic resources in/depicting/or to/for their regions.

"We are not only doing this to beat the record of Iran but to promote awareness about the richness of our aquatic resources," Balasting said.

He said OTSAI had already finished painting 1.4-Km of canvas. The completed canvas from other regions will be attached to OTSAI's mural on Oct. 20 before it will be officially measured.

Among those expected to join the Baguio event are artists from the Victor Oteyza Contemporary Art Space (Vocas), Tebing Bocok, Tano-artist Group, and art students and artists from the Baguio City National High School, University of Baguio Science High School and Benguet State University.

Balasting said Baguio artists will feature freshwater fish endemic to the Cordillera in their murals. Among the images will be tilapia and dapa (aroid-like fish).

The Daily Gospel

Monday, October 16, 2006
28th Week in Ordinary Time
(Bishop / Marquez / Mary Elizabeth)
1st Reading: Gal 6:11-24, Ps 27: 11-13, 14 (Gospel): Luke 11:29-32

In the crowd increased, Jesus began to speak to this way, "People of the present time are evil people. They ask for a sign, but no sign will be given to them except the sign of Jonah. As Jonah became a sign for the people of Nineveh, so will the Son of Man be a sign for this generation. The queen of the South will rise up on Judgment Day with the people of these times and condemn them, for she came from the ends of the earth to listen to the wisdom of Solomon, and here there is greater than Solomon. The people of Nineveh will rise up on Judgment Day with the people of these times and condemn them, for Jonah's preaching made them turn from their sins, and here there is greater than Jonah."

Commentary:

We are the children of God, free to baptize, and we are meant to remain free by standing firm and refusing to submit to any yoke of slavery. The yoke we bear is that of the cross of Christ, together working for justice and peace for all. This is the only sign that is given to us—the sign of the Son of Man, rejected, crucified and risen. This sign is the revelation of the wisdom of God and all other wisdom fades into oblivion in the face of God in Jesus. Have we repented at the preaching of the Gospel? Or will we be known as another wicked generation and be condemned?

The Philippine Daily Inquirer delivers
Call 896-6000 to subscribe!

Muslim scholars cite Pope's factual errors

From page A1

Pope's stated regrets over the uproar and his expressions of respect for all Muslims.

The politely worded letter challenged the his basic theology professor in his own area of expertise and gave him poor marks for misreading the Koran, failing to use some currently and citing obscure and possibly biased sources.

"The letter represents an attempt to engage with the papacy on theological grounds in order to tackle such a ringing misconception about Islam in the Western world," said Islamica Magazine, an international quarterly on Muslim affairs that posted the open letter on its website on Saturday.

Besieging scholar Mohammad Khalil told Reuters a copy of the letter would be handed to the Vatican nuncio (ambassador) on Sunday in Amman, where Islamica has an editorial office.

Speaking in Regensburg in early September, Benedict quoted a 14th century Byzantine emperor as saying Islam was evil and irrational and had been spread by the sword.

The speech sparked protests across the Muslim world, several churches were attacked and the Middle East and an Italian nun was murdered in Somalia. Benedict has said he did not agree with the emperor he quoted.

The scholars included grand muftis of Egypt, Oman, Uzbekistan, Istanbul, Bosnia, Russia, Croatia and Kosovo, as well as a Shiite ayatollah, Ambassadors from Ghana his Muhammad bin Talal and Western-based academics.

They faulted Benedict for arguing that a Koran verse advocating religious freedom was written while the Prophet Muhammad was politically weak and "marginalized ... concerning holy war" verses when he was strong.

The verse was written when Muhammad ruled in Medina and assisted to keep converts from forcing their children to abandon their faith, or leave his faith for Islam, they wrote.

The letter also faulted the Pope for translating "jihad" as "holy war," saying "Jihad" means a "struggle in the way of God" and did not necessarily have to include force.

Dodgy sourcing

Benedict used a "very marginal source," the scholars wrote, when he quoted an obscure 14th-century thinker. The thesis, to say Muslims thought God was so transcendent that he was not even bound by his own word.

The scholars also disputed passages where the Pope said or implied that Islam was irrational, violent and based on forced conversion.

"Had Muslims desired to convert all others by force, there would not be a single church or synagogue left anywhere in the Islamic world," they wrote.

They asked how Benedict could argue that violence was against God's mercy when Jesus Christ used it to drive the moneychangers out of the Temple in Jerusalem.

It would be better to use reading, humility and appreciation were qualities God's faithful servants should exhibit, adding that the Islamic concept of jihad also emphasized these concepts.

The letter acknowledged that some Muslims used violence "in favor of utopian dreams," but said this never happened without severe searching and questioning by condemned the murder of the Italian nun in Somalia.

The scholars also chided Benedict for basing his view of Islam on books by neo-Catholic writers, saying Christians and Muslims should "consider the actual voices of those we are dialoguing with, and not merely those of our own polemicists."

Reuters

ANG NEGOSYO NA NAIS NYO!
Easy Business, Minimal Investment, Sure Profit Industry

ALL-IN-ONE Load
An Invitation
for Dealers and Sub-Dealers
Easy Business + Low Investment + Multi Billion Industry =
BIG Income!
Bigger Profit Margins
Volume Discounts
FREE LOADING Services
Your Reliable
can earn as much as
10 sold of a PHE and a LOAD
using 1 SIM only!

Plus
UNIQUE & FULL
MARKETING
SUPPORT

FREEDOM CARD
"With UNLIMITED TEXT Freedom"
An Invitation
for Sponsors and Distributors
on our extensive selling activities
in the Kalinga Season

Enjoy as much as
40% Distributor/Sponsor's Margin
from retail prices sales
of UNIPRO Freedom Cards
and other perks and benefits!

Save, Earn and Be Insured
With Freedom Cards, you will be rewarded
for every peso that you spend
on your load concerning transacted materials
points like groceries, restaurants,
gasoline stations, supermarkets, and more.

"Be part of a proven technologically-advanced, income-driven business opportunity."
Call us today and reap the benefits of a rewarding partnership with
Universal Value & Rewards Solutions (UNI-VRS), Inc.
Room 202 Vera Bldg., No. 62 West Avenue, Quezon City
414.7865 / 376.3695 / 638.8028 / 937.1952 / 371-468 (telefax)
Visit our website: www.uni-vrs.com

Muslims start 10-night peace vigil . . .

From page A1

Muslim jurists expert in religious law—collectively speak up—an Islamic census that serves as antidotes to the evils of violence and the menace of dangerous drugs.

Hence, the need for Muslims to invoke the fear of God to obtain a "good relationship among humanity and with other creations of God," to "suppress" wars, and to inspire "tranquilness in warnings and practices," according to the media.

They also spelled out the Muslim assault on such issues as genetically engineered foods, banned a prohibition on the daughter of sex crimes, is being a drafting species, and declared vaccine systems with heavy E. coli content, like the one in Muslim, as not being "halal" (permissible) for human consumption.

Recommended website

In a statement sent to the Bishop-Business Conference in Tacurong City, the media's also said: "In this day and age of computers and advancing information technology, we are a fingertip away from the minds of great men and women from other faiths who are honestly devoting al-Qur'an (the Koran), and we are badly and wrongly doing has been made easy and open to our time."

Ebrahim said the media recommended the website http://www.islam.tripod.com.my for online Muslim and non-Muslim researchers of the Koran.

The website contains extensive notes on the Koran from contemporary specialists, mostly from the scientific community.

According to the media, Ramadan is a season of peace, training for perseverance, self-restraint, physical and spiritual purification, fear of God, and a moral tool by which the rich and poor learn to share hunger throughout fasting.

In the Ambisalan, provincial police chief Senior Supt. Sherif Adjirim said a certain Lito sees a man have raped in a stairwell parked in an alley. Suspecting something, the woman called the police, who rushed off the dark alley.

Moments later, an explosion rocked the scene.

The blast damaged the taxi's fuselage, wounding Bryan Cris Rodriguez Solano, commander of the 104th Brigade.

The improvised Bagobian bomb was found by a garbage collector near the gates of the city's Ipsan Public Market yesterday morning, police said.

Supt. Chito Chipal Sta. Romualdez, acting city police chief, said the bomb was assembled from 60-mm and 40-mm mortars, with a timing device and shrapnel.

He said the bomb was in a cooking pot, placed inside a bag and timed to explode at 11:30 a.m. It was found at 7:30 a.m.

Romualdez could not say if the bomb had anything to do with the series of blasts in Central Mindanao last week, which included the Makabalo bombing on Oct. 10 and an explosion the same day in Tacurong City's public market in Sultan Kudarat province, where four people were wounded.

North Cotabato Gov. Emmanuel Pifiol said the head of the Armed Forces of the Philippines' Eastern Mindanao Command (Eastmincom), Lt. Gen. Roy Kyamko, was "visible" at the attacks. But he also blamed the Moro Islamic Liberation Front.

The MILF has denied involvement and offered to help the government identify and arrest the suspects.

Different version

In Manila, the military gave a different version as to who found the Ipsan bomb. It said the investigation revealed information from the 1st Infantry Division, of area found by civilian militia member Marcelo de la Cruz and AFP intelligence operatives.

"The discovery of the bomb was a result of the intensified security efforts of the AFP and the Philippine National Police in Mindanao," Armed Forces spokesperson Lt. Col. Buenaventura Pascual said.

He said it was "too early to say" who had planted the bomb but that the military was "looking at probable connections to terror threats ... or other groups."

Checkpoints up

"Military field reports are now studying an IED (improvised explosive device) angle. The most probable cause is that an IED in a public place spells danger to life and property. Its recovery by our troops prompted this danger," he said.

Brig. Gen. Raymundo Ferrer said intelligence information indicated Muslim militants planned to detonate at least six bombs in Bagobo and troops were checking certain areas of the city for possible bombs.

"We're very closely guarding the ports, airports and all places where terrorist activities can happen," regional police Chief Supt. Arsino Castigal told ABS-CBN radio. With reports from Bryant P. dela Cruz and Sofia A. Alfonso, Inquirer Mindanao, Associate Press in Manila and AP

A
S T R
A T E G Y
THAT WORKS
It's about time.

STRATEGIC PLANNING SEMINAR
November 21-23, 2006 • Mandarin Oriental Hotel

Top executives need vision. Especially during these times of economic crisis, business competition and organizational concerns, you'll need to turn your vision into reality. How to do that? You'll need a plan ... A STRATEGIC PLAN. Now, we can give your top executives the elements and structure of a strategic plan that will really work for your business. Register there today and see the difference.

After this seminar, the participants will be able to: Understand the scope, elements and steps in strategic planning • Acquire insights and stimulated experience on the strategic planning process • Maximize benefits from opportunities and minimize the effects of threats in the changing business environment • Confidently chart the future of the organization • Formulate the strategies that will ensure long-term survival and growth • Draw up initial action plans to support corporate direction.

For inquiries & reservations, call Aris, Diane, Caroline or Trena at 894-0405, 892-7041 or 816-1600 or log on to www.guthrie-jensen.com

Guthrie Jensen
SUPERSTRATEGIES IN MANAGEMENT
7/F Libra Tower Bldg., 103 Carlos Palanca Jr. St., Legaspi Village, Makati City

LAND BANK OF THE PHILIPPINES
Official Depository Bank of the Republic of the Philippines

LAND BANK OF THE PHILIPPINES
1598 M.H. Del Pilar cor. Dr. Quintos Sts., Malate, Manila
Telephone Nos. 405-7160, 405-7167, 45-7505

INVITATION TO BID

Sealed proposals together with the 10% bid bond for the purchase of [illegible] of the Bank properties listed below will be received in the Special Assets Department, 20th Floor, LBP Plaza Building, Manila on or before November 15, 2006 @ 4:00 P.M. at which time, bids & the bid bond proposals will be opened in the presence of interested bidders.

In case of NO/MULTIPLE BIDDERS/NO TOP BIDS, the Bank will conduct an Open Bidding/Negotiated Sale which in accordance with the Guidelines and the opening of the sealed bids will be immediately followed by an open bidding in which all bidders present shall be allowed to participate. In the event of NO/MULTIPLE BIDDERS/NO TOP BIDS, the highest bidder in this open bidding should not be lower than P10,000.00 for items 1-6 & 11 and P1,000.00 for items 7-10.

	PROPERTY DESCRIPTION	LOCATION	MINIMUM BID PRICE
1	2,208 sq.m. (lot) (2 storey commercial building)	San Jose, Buenavista Point, Agus Reservation Ave. & Mendiola Street, Brgy. Malabon, Cebu City	P30,630,000
2	1,014.75 sq.m. (lot) (2 storey residential building)	Cebu, Lapu-Lapu, Opon, Brgy. Looc, Rodriguez Jr. Ave. and Sitio Sto. Tomas City	P3,040,000
3	1,014 sq.m. (lot) (2 storey residential house)	Cebu, Lapu-Lapu, Opon, Brgy. Looc, Rodriguez Jr. Ave. and Sitio Sto. Tomas City	P3,040,000
4	1,014 sq.m. (lot) (2 storey residential house)	Cebu, Lapu-Lapu, Opon, Brgy. Looc, Rodriguez Jr. Ave. and Sitio Sto. Tomas City	P3,040,000
5	1,014 sq.m. (lot) (2 storey residential house)	Cebu, Lapu-Lapu, Opon, Brgy. Looc, Rodriguez Jr. Ave. and Sitio Sto. Tomas City	P3,040,000
6	1,014 sq.m. (lot) (2 storey residential house)	Cebu, Lapu-Lapu, Opon, Brgy. Looc, Rodriguez Jr. Ave. and Sitio Sto. Tomas City	P3,040,000
7	1,014 sq.m. (lot) (2 storey residential house)	Cebu, Lapu-Lapu, Opon, Brgy. Looc, Rodriguez Jr. Ave. and Sitio Sto. Tomas City	P3,040,000
8	1,014 sq.m. (lot) (2 storey residential house)	Cebu, Lapu-Lapu, Opon, Brgy. Looc, Rodriguez Jr. Ave. and Sitio Sto. Tomas City	P3,040,000
9	1,014 sq.m. (lot) (2 storey residential house)	Cebu, Lapu-Lapu, Opon, Brgy. Looc, Rodriguez Jr. Ave. and Sitio Sto. Tomas City	P3,040,000
10	1,014 sq.m. (lot) (2 storey residential house)	Cebu, Lapu-Lapu, Opon, Brgy. Looc, Rodriguez Jr. Ave. and Sitio Sto. Tomas City	P3,040,000
11	1,014 sq.m. (lot) (2 storey residential house)	Cebu, Lapu-Lapu, Opon, Brgy. Looc, Rodriguez Jr. Ave. and Sitio Sto. Tomas City	P3,040,000

For the complete description of the lots, 10% bidding bidding bond, you may log on to Bank's website www.landbank.com or visit the Special Assets Department (SPAD) 20/F Land Bank Plaza, 1598 M.H. Del Pilar cor. Dr. Quintos Sts., Manila. Manila or call Telephone Nos. 405-7160, 405-7167, 45-7505 or Telefax No. 405-7164 during office hours. Interested bidders may submit their bid to the Special Assets Department, 20th Floor, LBP Plaza Building, Manila.

Prospective bidders are required to inspect the above-listed properties as well as legal status of the titles before submitting their bids. The sale of the properties shall be on "AS-IS-WHERE-IS" basis. The winning bidder shall have undertaken to pay all applicable documentary and/or banking taxes and fees. The Bank's decision in the winning bidder shall be subject to the approval of the LBP approving authorities.

The Bank reserves the right to reject any or all bids, to waive any formality therein, and to accept the bid most advantageous to the Bank. The decision of Landbank shall be final and binding.

(Sgd.) GERALD L. BUENAVENTURA
Chairman
HEAD OFFICE CLEARANCE NO. AM-SAMCT-09072006

Magdalo officer faces second charge

A PHILIPPINE AIR force pilot undergoing trial in connection with the 2003 Oakwood mutiny has been slapped a second charge before a general court-martial for allegedly making malicious statements.

First Lt. Francisco Ashley Acedillo was charged with violation of Articles of War 95, or making provoking statements and gestures, according to the AFP spokesperson.

"The investigation showed that there was probable cause to file such charges against Lieutenant Acedillo," Maj. Augusto de la Pena told the Inquirer in a phone interview.

Acedillo's second charge stemmed from an interview with reporters after a hearing on Feb. 14 where he was quoted as saying that the people should choose between remaining under a system run through corruption and taking "a stand for truth and change."

Acedillo reiterated for the Magdalo spokesperson that day and repeated earlier statements made by Navy Lt. Sg. Antonio Trillanes IV, the leader of the so-called Magdalo group that took over the swank Oakwood hotel complex in July 2003.

De la Pena said that Acedillo was charged before the court-martial because the latter's statements were "contrary to the values of soldiery." Nikko Dizon

DPWH gears up for med tourism

A NEW BUILDING is being constructed at the Philippine Heart Center compound in Quezon City to meet the needs of an expanding medical tourism program.

The Department of Public Works and Highways, which is handling the construction of the three-story building, expects the first phase of the P250-million project to be completed by February 2007.

"The project will boost medical tourism as it provides renowned, state-of-the-art and more affordable health care not only to the public, but to the entire country and Asian region as well," Public Works Secretary Hermogenes Ebdane Jr. said.

The Philippines is urging foreigners to visit the country and avail themselves of its relatively cheaper medical procedures and wellness packages, including spa services. On the side, they could also enjoy the country's exotic attractions.

Ebdane said the new building's ground floor will have medical offices and commercial spaces, while the second floor will have commercial areas and parking spaces. The third floor and roof deck will be for parking. Leila B. Salaverria

Blind techies study musical transcription

From page A1

ndergo for Rehabilitation, Integration and Empowerment of the Visually Impaired, Inc. up in 1999, it currently shares office and training space with its partner school, STI-Cubao, at the Araneta Center in Quezon City.

A multi-awarded institution, the school has furnished partnerships also with the World Bank, Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (Tesda) and info tech companies like IBM Philippines. Its board of trustees is chaired by business economic analyst Peter Wallace.

But beyond churning out impressive graduates, Amor has proven that the blind can indeed lead the blind. Its 12 "founders" are themselves computer enthusiasts whose world is one big blank screen.

One of those founders is now the school president, Antonio Gomez Jr., an AB Psychology graduate and enthusiast pianist, who also earlier worked in a string of music lounges either as a keyboard player or a "solo quizzer."

A "quizzer" is someone who prepares game sense or all of the instruments in a song which could otherwise be performed live; the task can thus be considered as easy by fans of musical transcription. "Tony" explained.

Self-taught geek

Despite being born in darkness, Gomez proves to become a self-taught computer geek in the '80s by buying IT books, among other science materials, and "hearing my wife Mary read them to me."

The father of four had also taught himself how to repair household appliances, needing only an assistant "to tell me what color a thin wire or that."

Equipping the blind with skills that are currently "in demand" has been Amor's principle in designing its curriculum, added Gomez, whose own home served as Amor's first workshop.

And now in his 12th year of running the school, the eighteen headmasters has appointed his next big thing for his students.

"Every barangay in this country probably has at least three visionaries or freelancers that have videoke machines," Tony smiled when the business men him last week at an Amor function where he served, practically unassisted, as the sound system technician.

Making music digital

"For as long as there are new hit songs, whether foreign or local, that need to be added to our videoke (repertoire) or shows loaded into our cell phones, there will always be a demand for musical transcriptions," he said.

For videoke or mobile phone use, musical transcription basically involves transforming an original track of music into digital "Minus One" format.

The transcriptionist, of course, must know how to play an instrument like a synthesizer or organ to begin with. He or her main task it to—by ear—note melody, rhythm and harmony of the original piece.

Working alone, he must capture the notes and chords from the different instruments used in the song. The aim is to be as faithful as possible to the original soundtrack—or to be "playback," in local musicians' lingo.

The applied technology is called Midi (Musical Instrument Digital Interface), which allows the transcriptionist to record what he plays on the organ and then play back the piece for editing, this time using a computer keyboard.

Guiding voice

But for the blind to do all this, he needs help. Foot soothes software called "Guy" (Link Aurora with Speech), essentially a guiding "voice" that tells him every action he makes on the computer screen or keyboard.

Introduced in the country in the mid-1980s during the DOS era, Amor helps the groping users who—when he has struck the right key, opened the right scroll, or clicked on the right option.

Llanes and twelve pilloted the course early this year, with its first four students aspiring to be the first Filipino blind musical transcriptionists who could meet requirements not only in the Philippines but in other videoke-crazy countries like Taiwan and Japan.

To ensure the employment of the blind students, the school has made preliminary arrangements with multimedia service companies that serve as "resource providers" to videoke parlors and cell phone companies, Llanes said.

To be industry-grade, however, these processing Amor students must be able to match up with their sighted counterparts. They must, for example, "digitize" a new song in just three to four days, he said, during which those hungry the videoke market has become.

Unlocking hidden powers

"It's tedious work but we can do it," Llanes said. "We have long been unlocking the hidden powers of the blind through technology."

Amor's absolute inclusive Dr. Michael Bongala, who lost his vision due to a bullet wound but went on to become Asia's first blind medical transcriptionist; Ms. Criselda Binda, sighted until she was 12 and now the country's first blind recruitment specialist for Sykes; Jun Cruz, cell owner; and Jaime Charles Serrano, who became blind in his late teens but last year won the first Filipino with such a disability to finish computer science.

The school has also trained over 200 visually impaired persons aged 17 to 66 in basic computer literacy. It has also taught over 100 enhanced persons to become IT instructors, special education teachers, rehabilitation workers—or just the best parents—for the blind.

(Amor is *mounting a benefit concert this Oct. 27, 7 p.m., at the University of the Philippines Theater in Diliman, Quezon City. Titled "What You Believe," the show hopes to institutionalize the struggles and achievements of its graduates, and will feature pop, R&B and jazz artists like Mon Deval and Anna Rivers along with Amor's own singing talents.)*

Natatanging serbisyo pasimula ng Honda...

Buong-galang pinapatupad ng Honda Philippines, Inc. ang kanilang kaunaunahang programa na nagdadalayong tulungan ang mga kasalanta ng sakuna tulad ng Milenyo.

HONDA Cares

MILENYO AFTERMATH Service Caravan

Aarangkada sa ang caravan sa mga lugar na ito:

Antipolo City
Marikina City
Binangonan, Rizal
Calamba City, Laguna
Sto. Rosa, Laguna
Lipa City, Batangas
Lucena City, Quezon
Legazpi City, Albay
Naga City, Camarines Sur
Sorsogon City
Catanduanes
Tacloban City
Antipolo

OCTOBER 08-31,2006

Registration starts 8:00 AM

Para sa mga **Honda Motorcycles** customers na residente ng bayan ng bagong 'Milenyo', magpapagawa ang **Honda Philippines, Inc.** ng isang roadside program sa **Regions IV, V, VI, VII at NCR** upang tulungan silang kompunihin ang mga nasirang **Honda motorcycles.**

In cooperation with Ken Bike Store, Gimenez Traders, Dualsteer, Honda Motorail, Honda Motor Sports, Honda Prestige Traders, Rondanese, JT Marketing, LR Trade, Motortrade Supplies, Monterey, Mon Honda & Triumph

For more information, please contact your nearest Hi shop dealers.

Get a chance to own Limited Edition Jackets & Honda Oil

Be one of the beneficiaries of this very special Honda outreach program

FREE • Check-Up • Maintenance Check-up • Change Oil • Labor

Spare Parts at LOW, LOW PRICES

First come. First served.

For inquiries call the Honda Toll Free Hotline: 1-800-10-HONDAPH or (02)581-6799

The telephone has evolved into a high-tech tool for collection

How about your people?

DEBT COLLECTION BY TELEPHONE

November 21-23, 2006 • Mandarin Oriental Hotel

Anybody can make a call but not everybody can collect by telephone. Save time and effort and turn your telephone into a reliable collection tool. But first, you've got to arm your people with the right skills in making that call that would quickly turn receivables into cash.

After this seminar, the participants will be able to: Uncover the single most important factor that will make debt collection techniques work better • Understand and implement the physical and mental preparations before actually making their collection calls • Discover the three types of debtors and how to best deal with each one • Create an action plan that will increase the chances of succeeding on each call • Anticipate and deal with potential barriers and objections to collection • Discover and apply more innovative ways of collecting receivables • Use voice and words as tools to persuade customers to pay NOW! • Take advantage of other tools that will make each collection call productive.

For inquiries & reservations, call **Aida, Diane, Caroline or Tessa at 894-0805, 892-7681 or 816-3610** or log on to **www.guthrie-jensen.com**

Guthrie Jensen

3/F Diane Tower Bldg., 113 Carlos Palanca St. St., Legaspi Village, Makati City

Telenovelas win TV hearts across globe

From page A1

makers, contradicting playwright William Shakespeare's famous observation that "the course of true love never did run smooth."

The staple of TV in Spanish-speaking countries for many years, love story telenovelas—or soap operas—were the surprise hits this year in Germany, one of the world's largest TV markets.

"Rebelde in Berlin," the German version of Colombian smash hit "Betty La Fea" (Ugly Betty) was watched by more than 3.8 million viewers when it aired on Sat.1 channel earlier this year.

"Betty" is the story of a cancer woman who, although not conventionally beautiful, succeeds in getting her boss to fall for her, while fighting for her rights and for love along the way.

Brisk sales

At a result, telenovelas were high on international program buyers' wish lists, and sales were brisk at the influential Mipcom TV trade show in Cannes this week.

"We're seeing lots of Latin American and Asian buyers at the stand but (Sat.)'s natural," Ana Escalante, senior executive in the international arm of Venezuelan RCTV, told Mipcom Daily News.

"What has been different this week is the large numbers of German, French, Dutch and Scandinavian companies buying both soap-plotted novelas and formats."

This means that romantic dramas where love conquers all—albeit in some 200 episodes—will be coming to TV screens across Europe, from Spain to Russia and France to Romania.

A large part of this success is due to the telenovelas' low look.

Love and aspiration are still the key ingredients, but the new dramas now also reflect **hard-hitting issues** of modern day life, such as divorce and drug addiction.

Another reason is that some of most innovative and powerful players in the TV content business are starting to produce and distribute telenovelas. These include British-based Fremantle Media—an unit of America's NBC Universal and Sony Pictures Television International.

Ready for romance

Added to that is the view that "people are ready for romance" in Europe, Nick Marshall, Fremantle Media's executive in charge of telenovelas, told Agence France Presse.

"The telenovela continues to grow in popularity, bringing new heroines to broadcasters and local producers, from Germany to Russia and from Israel to the UK," said Paul Johnson, head of TV at Reed Midem, which organizes Mipcom.

But it has taken some time for the Latin American telenovela to arrive in Europe.

It took almost 10 years for German broadcaster Sat.1 to be persuaded to air a telenovela-style romantic drama, according to Wulf Bunte of FremantleMedia's German subsidiary-friendly UFA.

But when the show finally went on air, it was a smash hit that turned around ratings and fueled demand for more love stories both in Germany and outside.

FremantleMedia has sponsored its first German version with "Venus—Stand to Happiness," a modern fairy tale about a woman who begins a new life after being wrongly convicted for a crime she did not commit.

Broadcast on Germany's public television station ZDF, the show was extended due to popular demand.

Powerful recipe

Mixing romance with reality is proving a powerful TV recipe that has widened audience appeal to pull in 14- to 29-year-olds in big numbers without losing the core audience of older women.

But stars are also starting to be targeted.

"Wedding Bootigs," a new telenovela opera-drama by FremantleMedia Colombia and Colombia's Teleset, stars a man who proceeds to be gay in order to get an ex a reality show. The problems really start when he is forced to "out" himself on air and fall in love with show's bisexual female presenter.

Telenovelas are also starting to woo full-length feature film stars, with Mexico vying to win nominations for some of its newest telenovelas from Latin American broadcasters.

Colombia's RCN Televisión, for example, signed a deal at Mipcom to broadcast Fremantle/Televisa's "Forbidden Games," and "Blue Sky" was licensed to Colombia's Caracol television.

Three deals indicate the new telenovelas are likely to be around for a while.

"As they have an end, telenovelas will have more variety than conventional soaps," FremantleMedia's Marshall pointed out.

It also looks likely that "the end" will remain the key to a happy ever for viewers, broadcasters and the program makers. As the old saying goes: "Love conquers all." AFP

UP alumni to rate performance of fellow grads in gov't

By Ricardo S. Mulay
Contributor

IN A MOVE AIMED to assess the University of the Philippines system's performance in producing graduates who measure up to competitive standards in the government service, the UP Alumni Association (UPAA) has announced that it will conduct a study to rate the performance of UP graduates in government.

The UPAA said it will also look into the performance of UP graduates in the private sector.

The study will be conducted by the UP Alumni Association Research Center (UPAARC) and will be headed by Dr. Ramon Clemeña, a professor at the UP College of Engineering.

The UPAA said the study will be conducted in two phases.

The first phase will cover the performance of UP graduates in the executive branch of government, including the Cabinet, government-owned and controlled corporations (GOCCs), and government financial institutions (GFIs).

The second phase will cover the performance of UP graduates in the legislative and judicial branches of government, the private sector, and abroad.

The UPAA said the study will be conducted by a team of researchers from the UP Alumni Association Research Center (UPAARC) and will be headed by Dr. Ramon Clemeña, a professor at the UP College of Engineering.

The UPAA said the study will be conducted in two phases.

The first phase will cover the performance of UP graduates in the executive branch of government, including the Cabinet, government-owned and controlled corporations (GOCCs), and government financial institutions (GFIs).

The second phase will cover the performance of UP graduates in the legislative and judicial branches of government, the private sector, and abroad.

The UPAA said the study will be conducted by a team of researchers from the UP Alumni Association Research Center (UPAARC) and will be headed by Dr. Ramon Clemeña, a professor at the UP College of Engineering.

The UPAA said the study will be conducted in two phases.

The first phase will cover the performance of UP graduates in the executive branch of government, including the Cabinet, government-owned and controlled corporations (GOCCs), and government financial institutions (GFIs).

The second phase will cover the performance of UP graduates in the legislative and judicial branches of government, the private sector, and abroad.

Lowest Price Guaranteed or Your Money Back
ALL NEW! Intel Pentium 4 2.93 P 19,999.80 w/ 17" LCD
Buy computers online:
www.buyqube.com
Manila Cebu Davao
(02) 410 - QUBE (7823)
0922-4106849 to 50

SHARP
FAX MACHINE
Thermal Fax Machine
Plain Paper Fax Machine
FO-01
FO-P610
FO-71
FO-A850
ABYECH PENGGOM
MANILA BRANCH
CEBU BRANCH
DAVAO BRANCH

Canon
Delighting You Always
BUSINESS AS USUAL OR BUSINESS UNRIVALLED?
Smart ones choose the latter.
Get a Free Laser Shot Jacket when you buy an LBP 2900, LBP 3000, LBP 3300, LBP 3500 or an LBP 5000*
Canon Marketing (Philippines), Inc.

SLEEP DEFICIT
Is Dangerous To Your Health!
Studies confirm that our body's health is strongly influenced by sleep. So before your nightly sleep deficit due to stress & anxiety turns into INSOMNIA, make sure you have sufficient sleep every night.
Take LETZENZI Regularly
LETZENZI
Insomnia
Prostate Enlargement
Menstrual Disorder
Recommended starter dose is 1 - 3 caps/day 2 - 3x daily until sleeping pattern is established. Maintenance and supplemental dose for optimum health is 1 caps daily.

DEXTERTON
Dexterton Makati Showroom Unveiled

ALL IN, NO HIDDEN CHARGES

TRAVEL MART SKY LAYER

Bangkok $258
HONG KONG $283
THREE COUNTRIES $295

PARK

SALE HONGKONG $128

$121

TRAVEL PLAZA INCORPORATED

Singapore $186

Bangkok $205 Hongkong $159

Magellan World Travel, Inc.

MAGICAL KOREA PACKAGES

$119 $129 $149 $169 $189

ISLANDS INTL TRAVEL & TOURS

JOB Market

BETTER PEOPLE

Think Winlink.

HALLOWEEN BLOCKBUSTER

$278 $288

WINLINK TRAVEL

AIR TRAVEL GUIDE & TOURS, INC.

Special Promo Package

Where you find the best.

JOB

SPECTACULAR TREATS!

HONGKONG SHENZHEN USD 279

Singapore USD 324

SHANGHAI USD 365

BANGKOK USD 245

BEIJING USD 410

TOKYO USD 775

OSAKA USD 622

BORACAY BOHOL

OCW/IMMIGRANT/Blockings also available.

ARK TRAVEL EXPRESS

FREE GROUP TRAVEL WORKSHOP!!!

AUTUMN in KOREA USD 795

JCI WORLD CONGRESS USD 980

USD 1,245

DOWN UNDER 4 in 1 USD 1,750

RAIKO

YOUR CONNECTION TO BETTER JOBS

JOB Market

HONG KONG TOUR

SINGAPORE PACKAGES

SINGAPORE

CHINA TOUR PACKAGE

SHANGHAI

BEIJING

TIBET (CHINA)

BANGKOK PACKAGES

BANGKOK

PATTAYA

HALLOWEEN'S Biggest Promo Guaranteed Seats & Hotels 27 OCT Departure

6D SHANGHAI $239

3N SHANGHAI 1N HANGZHOU 1N NANJING $299 FULLBOARD

3N SHANGHAI 2N BEIJING $399 FULLBOARD

3N SHANGHAI 2N SHENZHEN $399 FULLBOARD w/ DISNEY DAY TOUR

SKYNET TRAVEL

China Panorama

RAMADA

NEW WORLD Market Hotel

Panda Travel Packages

FREE IT ENTRY TICKETS

Shanghai 199 199 239 299

PANDA TRAVEL SERVICE INC.

Tutors must still serve

PEOPLE THE MILITARY will now have a limited role in the conduct of elections in the country, the same cannot be said of teachers.

Education secretary Jesli Lapus said teachers would still have to play a major role in elections until the polls are automated.

But he said he was pushing for the automation of the teachers...numbering some 500,000—from election duty so precious time from the "disruptive" during polls, including harassment by politicians.

"Yes it can be so during members of poll clashes, but it won't be clean until the electoral system is fully automated," Lapus said.

The former recently appointed a new more multitasking partial computerization in next year's midterm elections.

Lapus said computerization should begin at registration, through the voting and counting stages.

"Deploy [Department of Education] personnel should not be used as political instruments," he said.

Public school teachers around the country are deployed as election workers to handle duties ranging from supervising the balloting to the counting of votes, oftentimes for days and until the wee hours.

Last week, the Department of National Defense and the Commission on Elections signed an agreement limiting the involvement of the military in elections. Alexis Pepe

idec
The New Split Type Aircon
Wall-Mounted
1hp-P16,500
1.5hp-P18,500 2hp-P20,800
2.5hp-P25,800 3hp-P31,800
Floor Mounted
3hp-P30,500 5hp-P50,800
Ceiling Mounted 3hp-P35,800
Free Installation!
Call 243-2618,241-4731,(0919)2482183
Available at: MC Home Depot / Fort S. Ortigas

LOOKING FOR BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES?
CHINA
CANTON EXPRESS
4DAYS $299
Shanghai
199, 5 DAYS

People's Choice

SUPER BRAND
GOLD 2005
PLATINUM 2004
GOLD 2003
GOLD 2002
GOLD 2001
GOLD 2000
GOLD 1999
GOLD 2005

PILOT
Refillable Ball Point Stick Pens

New
CORINTHIAN EXECUTIVE
own a unit for as low as
P10,668
monthly
CITYLAND
812-2222 687-1111 243-6565

COPIERS
Rebuilt/Reconditioned
Ricoh • Canon • Olivetti • Sanyo
Also Available : LIQUID COPIERS
COPYTRADE

Widest Selection of Industrial Cleaning Equipment
P39,500
P3,500
Tel. Nos.: 9344328 • 5246526 • 5345290
5460391 • 7407890

COPYSTAR
CLEAR POWDER COPIER
For only P15,000
SALES: 8907161 to 63 • 8907164 • 8907165 to 70 • 8907323

VIRTA
Auto Barrier
P45,000
Free Installation!

TOP QUALITY
Water Refilling Station Systems
and Replacement Parts
WaterCare
"Quality Water, Quality Life"

Beat the high cost of electricity
with FREE heat from the sun!
Solahart
Solar Water Heating Systems
No. 1 in the Philippines!
No. 1 in the World
SOLANDA ENTERPRISES, INC.

MIST FAN COOLING SYSTEMS
Convert your existing fan into an
Evaporative Cooling System
COOL MIST INTERNATIONAL

A world class institution linking you with the rest of the world
KGC
Kester Grant College, Philippines
• Academic scholarships available
• Modern & airconditioned facilities
• International academic & institutional tie-ups
• Prestigious home based & institutional hospitals
• An affiliate of ICSEC-KAPLAN Educational Center
• Well trained & experienced instructors w/ master's & doctoral degrees
Bachelor of Science in Nursing
Bachelor of Elementary Education
Major: Math • Science • English
Bachelor of Secondary Education
Bachelor of Science in Business Administration
Major: Business Management • Entrepreneurship • Marketing
Schedule of enrollment for 2nd sem. S.Y. 2006-2007 (8:30-5:30)
Oct. 23 - 24: 4th year
Oct. 25 - 27: 3rd year
Oct. 28 - 30: 2nd year
Nov. 2 - 3: 1st year
Oct. 23 - Nov. 3 Transferees
Nov. 6 - 10 Late Registration
Hometown Hospitals:
• St. Luke's Medical Center
• Fatima's Memorial Hospital
• Dr. De Los Santos Medical Center
Affiliates
• Lung Center
• San Lazaro Hospital
• Mandaluyong Health Center
• National Children's Hospital
• Philippine Orthopedic Center
1608 Quezon Ave., Q.C. Tel: (02) 928-9125/27/35 www.kgcgroup.edu/gc/phils

Victor
Selective Racks
Mobile Filling Compactor
Medium / General Purpose Shelves
VICTOR HARDWARE

BP-S-F
Silky smooth grip and balanced design ensures comfortable, effortless writing.
Available in Black, Red, Blue
Philippine Exclusive Distributor:
COSMOS BAZAR, INC.
271 D. PARADES ST. SAMPALOC, MANILA
PILOT CORPORATION
Tokyo, Japan

We need a bridge, cry Iloilo townfolk as they bury t

By Marian P. Bacpac Jr.
Inquirer Visayas

BANBAN, ILOILO—THIS TOWN HELP IT'S

biggest funeral yet yesterday as it had to rent 12 of the 22 people who died when strong currents swept an overloaded jeepney off an overflowing bridge and into a river on July 2.

While it concluded throughout the municipal public cemetery in one by one, the 12 other caskets were unloaded.

The endless final line in the multipurpose gym in the town proper where thousands of

THE –RAZOR SEASON SALE!
Power Dryer. Hair Rebig. pare facial.
WOODEN CHRISTMAS
Doll Cameras
SALE
Dryer with Fogie
Grow the Awesome Hair
Beyond that dryer is available
TEL.: (032) 8388-5678 (8 Deals)

SANYO
Uniwel
Digital Network Solutions
New DATCHE Phil.

chairs with the legend "Never Again" and "Remember the Sangyongan Tragedy" relocating to their Sangyongan home where they used to rest.

The overloaded "jumbo" jeepney was attempting to cross the Tangyan River on an overflow bridge when the swiftly current lurched by days of episodic rains swept the vehicle into the raging waters.

Of those 68 passengers, 22 did not make it, 10 remain missing. The 10 bodies have been officially considered victimless even though their bodies had not been found.

"All of them died for a purpose," said Fr. Antonio Villalobos, assistant parish priest, in his homily. "They gave us hope. They gave us the real meaning of life."

Parish priest Fr. Ernesto Montenero joined his the Homily.

"We love you," was all 7-year-old Jessaryl Estrada could say as his mother, Evangeline, was laid to rest.

He and his four siblings have been their parents in the tragedy. Their father, Victor, was among the missing.

Iloilo 1st District Rep. Jerry Trenas said in a speech the tragedy clearly showed "the grave unrest of our people that require the concern, attention and action of the higher authorities."

Construc
the bridge

THE LEGEND on a

Unti-unti nang nabubuo ang mga pangarap niyo.

Ang nakapos na GoNegosyo sa Gawad Kalinga sa SM Mall of Asia grounds noong October 6 ay matagumpay na naidaos. Maraming negosyo ang nasimulan at maraming buhay ang nabago. Sa tulong ng GoNegosyo, Gawad Kalinga at iba pang mga institusyon at businesses, nasimulan nating buuin ang isang produktibong komunidad--sama-sama nating inaangat ang kalusugan ng mga Pilipino.

Aabutangan at gagabayan ka namin dito ang sarili mong negosyo.
Maaaring lumang ng GoNegosyo tuwing Lunes sa 4PM @ 7/F 30-11 30 pm.
Maaari ring tumawag sa PCX office sa 637-9387 o 637-9228
o kaya ay mag log-on sa www.gonegosyo.org

NEGOSYO
Sa Gawad Kalinga

"Gawad Kalinga nurtures dignity by the poorest Filipinos through building peaceful and productive communities where their talents and skills can be nurtured through multi-sectoral partnerships and with the help of Filipinos here and abroad. We see GoNegosyo helping self-productivity by developing templates for sustainability and job-creation enterprises to mobilize OF communities."

Tony Meloto
Executive Director
Gawad Kalinga

"We are inspired by what Gawad Kalinga is doing and we share a common vision to bring both upliftment and productivity to our country. We can OF making an IMPACT!
We see GoNegosyo helping to KINDLE HOPE"

Jose Concepcion
Founding Trustee
Nat. Center for Entrepreneurship

Tuloy-tuloy na ang paghupad ng mga pangarap!
Sama-sama nating buuin ang kinabukasan ng ating mga bayaning OFW.
Tara na sa GoNegosyo para sa OFW sa Market! Market! Sa darating na December 13 to 17, 2006, maaaya nating saksihangin ang ating mga kapatid, Hanebag nating ay mga negosyo, franchise, serbisyo, interesthinya at iba pang kandang pagkakakitaan.
Kaya kung may talong pang negosyo kayo, dali na at ating i-exhibit sa GoNegosyo para sa OFW!
Tumawag lang sa Detect Media sa 813-2072 o 813-2077 o kaya mag email sa salesdetectia@pldtdsl.net

Senators seek of tillers tagge

Congress to sh students reali

PACAP celebrates its active participation in the upli

It's been ₱1B for Australian a

heir dead from river tragedy

Interstate and 41 feet was a steep price to pay to highlight their need for a regular bridge. He said continued inaction would be "more than a crime and an injustice."

An overflow bridge is meant to control floods more than serve as a regular span.

k release ed NPA rebels

their alleged ...ued terror plot ...carried out on ...dent has not ac... Magsaysay ...aring a visit here ...

...ovincial Director ...ce Pinpin, Nino ...Colombo and ...ers seized ...ry intelligence ...ra Tagaytay City ...ght of April 10 ...on their way to ...

Sibang Batangas.

They were accused of planning to bomb several places during the Labor Day celebration to topple the Arroyo administration.

The five denied the accusation and said they were researchers and community organizers.

Magsaysay, the son of the late President Ramon Magsaysay who facilitated the surrender of communist rebel leader Luis Taruc in the 1950s, said he and Mariglad believed the five were not NPA rebels. Marlon Ramos, Inquirer Southern Luzon

now college ty of ad world

...ding theses de... ...Miriam College, ...the Philippines, ...Trinity College, ...among others. ...will feature scen... ...to refute the ...of the event pro... ...namely, Globe ...daily Inquirer.

...It is open to all ad... ...member exam... ...may be obtained ...www.uniadmad.... ...com

...Advertising ...d by Jun T. Ville, ...g Board of the ...nion's chair and former chair and president of the Association of Accredited Advertising Agencies Phils. (4 As-P), with Ronald Allen Figueroa, project director, and Ranke Zulco of Chilli Coast, the endorser monitoring arm.

The congress' Board of Advisers includes Cherche Lanares, TV news personality and Pride Productions president; Mickey Quiogue, GMA 7 president; Francis Lotilla, Union Broadcasting president; Jun Nicdao, Manila Broadcasting Network president; Sandy Prieto-Romualdez, president and CEO of Philippine Daily Inquirer; Roberto Lozada, president of Ateneo de Manila University; and Dr. Lydia Echon, FEU president.

...ement of the lives of indigenous peoples.

over 20 years aid plan in RP

...ebration are the ...the implementation ...that have been ...empowering ...conferencing, fo... ...ers operated, wa... ...Bohol, farm-based ...ities, food pro... ...ocusing, health ...and restoration ...been since 1986. ...mary celebration ...11 and 12 in Inabanga, Bohol. The ...

17); Iloilo (Oct. 21); Capiz (Oct. 24); Aklan (Oct. 27); Northern Samar (Nov. 8, 10, 12, 14, 16); Agusan del Sur (Nov. 25, 27, 29); Surigao del Norte (Surigao del Norte City Gov. 3, Surigao Mainit, Gov. 8, Dinagat, Dec. 29, Lake Mainit, Dec. 12); Cagayan de Oro City, 14, 2006); Misamis Occidental (Jan. 8, 10, 12, 14, 2007); Gen... City Unit, 29, 2006); South Cotabato (Jan. 27, 29, 31, 2007); Davao de Norte, Bislig (Feb. 3, 2007); Davao Oriental (Feb. 11, 2007).

The celebration will end with a 3-City National Fiesta on Feb. 22-23, 2007, in Davao City.

SPECIAL PROMO!!!
P15,300
Brand New PANASONIC MAIN SYSTEM
• 3 Lines 6 Locals
• 12 Lines 48 Locals
• 288 Locals Expandable
Panasonic PABX
FREE DEMO

TOTAL PABX
Call Transfer
Music On Hold
Call Privacy
Intercom
Starts at P6,300

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

OPINION

Macro credit

TWENTY-TWO YEARS AFTER HIS MAGSAYSAY Award for Community Leadership, Muhammad Yunus of Bangladesh has received the Nobel Peace Prize. It is a prize he shares with Grameen Bank, the micro-credit institution he founded that has served millions of Bangladeshis—and thousands more outside his country—through small, cheap loans that helped them lift themselves out of poverty.

EDITORIALS It is also a prize he richly deserves. Pope Paul VI famously wrote, 40 years ago, that development was "the new name for peace." Yunus has lived his entire life, in the words of the Norwegian Nobel Committee, helping poor people "create economic and social development from below." His prize allows even skeptics to endorse the integral connection between anti-poverty campaigns and lasting peace.

"Lasting peace cannot be achieved unless large population groups find ways in which to break out of poverty," the Norwegian Nobel Committee wrote. "Micro-credit is one such means. Development from below also serves to advance democracy and human rights."

The committee is indefatigably right.

We recognize the radical, even breathtaking simplicity behind Yunus' vision; "Many in poor people without any financial security had appeared to be an impossible idea," the committee wrote. At the same time, we praise the simple genius that turned that idea, again and again and again, into plain reality. The result has been a lifting-of-water's-still-by-axe's-housewares phenomenon that restores dignity even to the poorest of the poor.

And micro

THESE THOUGHTS ON THE MICRO-CREDIT legacy of an economics professor central as of today when micro-credit initiative launched by another economist: we mean, of course, President Macapagal-Arroyo and Executive Order 558.

EO 558, as we wrote last month, threatens to undermine the Arroyo administration's hard-won financial discipline by allowing government non-financial agencies (GNFAs) and government-owned and -controlled corporations (GOCCs) to resume the substantial credit functions.

We cannot but understand this new policy as the re-politicization of cheap credit—something touted That Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra had used to great effect especially in his bailiwicks. His success, and the potential for consolidating political control in the President's areas of support through the use of cheap loans, must have recommended the new policy to the President and her political advisers.

Her economic managers, however, were largely unconsulted before EO 558 was issued on Aug. 8. By simply repealing President Joseph Estrada's EO 138—which had, among other innovations, disallowed GNFAs and GOCCs from lending funds—the new EO raised the possibility, yet again, of lethal losses and other forms of politicized, undisciplined lending.

Finance Secretary Margarito Teves was one of many officials taken aback by the new EO. But working to concert with other concerned parties, he has managed to dramatically limit the scope of EO 558. Under the EO's new look, direct microfinance lending by GNFAs and GOCCs is limited to only one agency: the Department of Social Welfare and Development. If we understand the latest developments correctly, the amount of money the DSWD can lend has also been severely limited: to P100 million, using moneys from the National Livelihood Support Fund.

President Arroyo has given fighted these revisions, the clearest sign of her change of mind was a recent speech at the Lord Mayor's Banquet in the City of London, where she identified the country's 16 poorest provinces, spoke about the need to offer micro-financing to micro-enterprises in those provinces, and then said: "We want DSWD to be funding these areas."

This is, altogether, a small but significant victory for the non-politicians who manage the economy. Whether next year's political exercises will change the terms of debate once and awakens this victory remains to be seen. The administration's foray into micro-credit requires macro monitoring.

Publisher **Isaac Belmonte**
Editor-in-Chief **Letty Jimenez-Magsanoc**
Managing Editor **Joe Ma. D. Nolasco**
Associate Editor **Rolando O. Tolentino**
Assistant Editor for Features **Rosario S. Garcellano**
Vice Editor **Antonio T. Enriquez Jr.** • Chief, News Day Desk **Neil G. Pascual**
Opinion Editor **Juan V. Arcega**
Sectional Editor **Francisco S. Sumulong Jr.**
Senior Desk Editor **Jose F. Sonido Jr.**
Editor at Literature **Antonio Montalan**
Chief Photographer **Ernel S. Salvador**
Art & Design Director **Grace A. Velarde**

Head of Circulation **Rene B. Pasco**
President **Alexandra Prieto-Romualdez**
Executive Vice President **Dave G. Nuyda**
Senior Vice President for Sales and Marketing **Rizal G. Ramirez**
Vice President for Advertising **Ruth R. Guarin**
Vice President for Finance **Jesus Jesse B. Tee**

Readers' Advocate **Lorna Kalaw-Tirol**

All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced, distributed or transmitted in any form or by any means, including photocopying, recording or other electronic or mechanical methods, without the prior written permission of the publisher, except in the case of brief quotations embodied in critical reviews and certain other noncommercial uses permitted by copyright law.

Libel law violates Bill of Rights

THE NATIONAL UNION OF JOURNALISTS and other press organizations are gathering signatures in its peoples' initiative to petition Congress to decriminalize libel. This is in reaction to the "libel-filing spree" engaged in by Eli Soriano (and Crying Lecturer) and Mike Velarde (and Couples for Christ).

As I See It

Neal H. Cruz

While the move to have the libel law decriminalized will remove the fear of landing in jail—which ranks at the back of the mind of every crusading journalist—I do not think that this is the right response to the penchant of union-minded public figures for harassing the press with libel suits. (To Mike Velarde and public figure and, therefore, is a "public property" who cannot sue for libel, according to American jurisprudence). Decriminalizing libel will only make judges less conscientious in deciding against journalists even the latter will not be going to jail anyway but will only be made to pay fines and damages. And therein lies the booby-trap. While a criminal case needs a proof "beyond reasonable doubt to convict, a civil case needs only a preponderance of evidence. And the judges will be more liberal in awarding damages to complainants—especially if they (the complainants) will share some of the amount with the judges. At least two newspapers in the United States were bankrupt because of gratuitous damages awarded by civil courts to complainants.

I think the meaningful response to libel happy public figures is to amend the state obsolete libel law to make it conform to the Bill of Rights in our Constitution.

The Bill of Rights provides that "no accused is presumed innocent until proven guilty" But the law on libel, as it is written and interpreted at present, presumes an accused guilty until he proves his innocence. Why so?

Libel law four elements: (1) defamatory imputation, (2) identification (the aggrieved party must be identifiable), (3) publication and (4) malice.

The first three are already present when a libel complaint is filed; only the last, malice, is needed to convict. It is the absence of malice that gives most journalists a false sense of security. They think malice is very hard to prove. Wrong. In fact, under the present libel law, the complainant doesn't have to prove malice at all.

In law, there are two kinds of malice: malice in law and malice in fact. Malice in fact, the present is hell time, there is such a thing as "malice in law" or "malice per se" or "presumed malice." Any defamatory statement is presumed by the law to be "malicious," meaning, meant to hurt the subject person the moment it comes out.

The accused can rebut this presumption of malice by presenting justifiable reasons and other evidence in his defense—such as, the sources of the story or colorable on "privileged" (towards of congressional or judicial hearings, public records, official statements, etc.), or that the publication of the story is in the public interest, or that the statement is a public official whose official activities the public has the right to know. But the burden of proof is on the accused (not on the accuser in the Constitution requires). If the accused (reporter/columnist/author, etc.) is declared in default by the court, the accuser doesn't have to prove anything. The presumption of malice stays and the accused is convicted—on a technicality.

Even when the accused successfully overcomes this presumption of malice, the accuser has another chance to win a conviction: he can prove "malice in fact" or "actual malice"—such as, the accused knew ill will and has ill motives in writing and publishing the stated fact about him. That's "freedom of the press"!

Why is our libel law written and interpreted in such a way? Because it was copied from the libel law that was written during the American colonization of the Philippines, when there were no "public figures" but "subjects" who could write and publish pamphlets attacking their masters. The attacks were usually "stifled" through violence—when the pamphleteers' victims challenged their persecutors to duels, which, in turn, caused public unrest and turmoil. So the Americans turned the penal law as a public crime—not as a private crime even though libel was an offense against the reputation of the complainant—so that aggrieved parties could use their attackers in court instead of challenging them to duels.

Libel law should reflect the tradition of testifying in a libel complaint almost everybody in the "accused" publication's staff. The pamphlets or newspapers in colonial times were very small business operations where the reporter usually also served as the editor and publisher. And even if they were separate personalities, it was logical to include the two of them in the complaint because they saw all the stories before the printing or publication.

But it would be illogical to include everybody in the staff now when many big-city newspapers are built a floor thick. It would be impossible for even a dozen editors to read all the stories that go into their newspapers now. Therefore, including in a libel complaint all the editors or publishers who most likely did not see the offending story before publication, is questionable. Why should they be liable? It is not only illogical, it is also unfair and is a failure of justice. Guilt should attach only to those who participate in an illegal act.

What am I driving at? That the present libel law is already obsolete and out of sync with reality. It should be amended to do away with the presumption of malice that runs counter to our Bill of Rights.

It's still 'Hello Garci'

"HELLO GARCI WILL NEVER HAPPEN AGAIN," prophesied Solicitor General Antonio Nachura. That is so in the light of the Comelec resolution to limit the role of the military in elections. No more will soldiers take part in counting and canvassing votes, choosing precincts, transporting ballot boxes and carrying election returns. Good riddance. Henceforth, they will merely man checkpoints and enforce the gun ban. And only 20 percent of them will be involved when before the entire 125,000-strong Armed Forces of the Philippines was.

Comelec Chair Benjamin Abalos agrees enthusiastically: "Gusto ko pure, there will be no more Garci." He adds jokingly, "There will only be 'Hello Bunoan'," in reference to Ramon Bunoan, a newly appointed Comelec commissioner.

So all's well that ends well?

Not really. All made that rule badly.

I guess that limiting the military's role in elections can have tremendous adverse effects. Especially given that today's AFP is controlled by the generals sanctioned in the Hello Garci tapes as having favored the Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo clique of them (Generoso Senron. They were all rewarded, and not punished, for their treasonous act of bribery. But limiting the AFP's role in elections won't exempt can (and) from the face of the earth, or even some dose of it.

Lest we forget, there's an exchange in the "Hello Garci" tape, where GMA worried about not getting enough votes in some pro-Fernando Poe Jr. provinces and Garci responded by saying, as you know, Macias the military isn't really good at rigging things. "If I guess maraming gagawin," but that probably speaking the effort to put the votes was being executed well. "Yung lang pagpaninsin at siyet maayos ka na nun." That is a breathtakingly revealing statement in more ways than one. The least of what it reveals is that the soldiers are not the fine, moral and shining knights in shining armor that Gen. Nachura has made them out to be.

Lest we forget too, it was people like this, Gen. Francisco Gudani and Lt. Col. Alexander

There's the Rub

Conrado de Quiros

Balutan who tried earnestly and desperately to stop cheating in their areas of jurisdiction. For this pains, Gudani was relieved by as post-vote recount. Balutan was as brash as go-mission bibing, which would have been temptation enough for a lesser man, but which he himself took to be his punishment that it was. If I recall right, in the same "Hello Garci" tape, one senatorial candidate asked for help from GMA in the Ifugao. This was after Garci told him there was little he could do for him as Ifugao was here on keeping the elections clean. There, too, you find something breathtakingly revealing: In this country, people who are determined to be honest are an affront to high office, they are to unwelcome refugees.

Both Gudani and Balutan were over and beyond the call of decency and went on to tell the truth about what they knew about the cheating in the last elections. For which pains they were court-martialed for defying GMA's order forbidding any subordinate—as though Gudani and Balutan could ever be that by any stretch of the imagination—from testifying against her without her permission. What can I say? Insanity is the logic. There you is determine whom is that judgment properly applies to.

Why on earth should limiting the military's participation in elections stop another "Hello Garci" from happening? The "Hello Garci" tape wasn't a conversation between military officials or between a candidate and a military official. It was a conversation between two civilians. It was a conversation between GMA and Virgilio Garcillano, between the incumbent president and consummate cumbero and Dainbo commissioners, at the height of the counting of votes—a conversation that by all the rules of God and man, democracy and decency should never have taken place. It was as much an "impropriety" as the lawyer of the accused in a court case keeping into the judge's quarters and being assured by the judge in the most obsequious terms that her case is won. What on earth has got to do with the rule of the military in elections?

At bottom, what is the "Hello Garci" tape all about? It is all about cheating. It is all about the highest official of the land conspiring with a Comelec commissioner to recover the votes, and not quite incidentally kidnapping a public school teacher to prevent her from spreading on the cheating. That can't be prevented from happening again by limiting the participation of the military in elections. That can't be prevented from happening again by putting the public school teachers safely in charge of elections, which will only succeed in overworking while underpaying them. That can't even be prevented from happening again even by punishing the cheating the elections, though that should have been done long ago. Except that Abalos, who now jokes about cheating, cheated the taxpayers by awarding the bid to an unqualified bidder.

That can be prevented, as all inquiry can be presumed, by fighting wrongs, by punishing the guilty and rewarding the innocent, by showing the world that nobody gets away with murder. People get away with the murder of the soul, they will get away with the murder of the body. People get away with the murder of democracy, they will get away with the murder of people. The only way to stop "Hello Garci" from happening all over again is to jail Hello and Garci. You allow them to reap the fruits of their malefactions, you might as well have a law ordering all honest men in this country to carry a sign that says, "Swindle wings ako." You allow Hello to continue being president of this country and Garci to seek a seat in Congress next year, you might as well prepare yourself for a long time that those reporting again and again and again like the Eveready battery: "Hello Garci, Hello Garci, Hello Garci."

The battle over billboards

IF YOU WERE RESIDENTS, YOU COULD RIDE the problem posed by billboards as our 3rd passup. Just four old billboards. And if you're one of those car-less residents, to whom that was pissed as much or seriously maimed by a flying billboard, you might cheer Manolito. But because you are not Manolito, you will have to deal with more ominous fare for big billboard regulation.

Billboards are a problem, as is their property as subject to regulation. Billboards are also a form of speech. So you will have to deal with the distinction and sub-distinctions related to the regulation of speech. Billboards might contain political speech urging support for candidates and referendums. Or commercial candidates. They might also contain religious speech. Political speech and religious speech enjoy the highest form of constitutional protection. But even mere commercial speech enjoys a degree of constitutional protection, notwithstanding the Godfather of business, no—but not anything and everything.

Sounding Board

Fr. Joaquin G. Bernas, S.J.

State of clear factors, however, persons must reasonable character to rational regulation of billboards. For one, the current campaign against billboards is not so much against what others say or express as against the billboards themselves. If place and quality of communication are the only issues, regulation can easily be justified. The State is sufficiently armed with police power which enables it to protect the health and safety of the people. Protection of life and limb is a perfectly valid basis for regulation or even prohibition.

Can aesthetics, however, be the basis for regulation or prohibition? The question has an interesting history. We do have a 1918 Supreme Court decision which upheld the validity of a statutory provision authorizing the Courts of First Instance hearings to remove any sign, signboard or billboard found by him to be offensive to the sight or otherwise a nuisance? The Court argued: "While our enacting into the realm of psychology, we think it quite demonstrable that sight is as valuable to a human being as any of his other senses, and that the proper enhancement of his sense can deserve as much or his contentment as the sure improved upon the senses of hearing and smell, and probably as much as both together." In the absence then any aesthetic criterion, it is clear that the Court answered that "the prevailing morality or strong and preponderating opinion demands such legislation." But, as can be seen, aesthetics had to be linked with the health of the eye. Can aesthetics stand alone as basis for regulation?

Time was when aesthetics was rejected as a basis for the use of police power. A new history Court put it this way: "Aesthetic considerations are a matter of luxury and indulgence rather than of necessity, and it is unwise to adopt a standard which would make the validity of police power." And a California Court said: "We find that the one ground upon which the owner cannot may be thought to have acted is that appreciation of billboards is, or may be, offensive to the sight of persons of refined taste . . . It has never been held that police regulations may seem purely as an exercise of police power, a limited restriction of an owner of property to use his property in accustomary and beneficial way."

Gradually, however, "persons of refined taste" slowly gained ground by paving somewhat in favor of aesthetics with health, safety and morals, as our Court did in 1938. Thus, Justice Feland was quoted as saying: "Beauty may not be quaint, but she is not an outcast beyond the pale of protection or respect. She may at times shelter herself under the wing of safety, morality or decency."

Progress was further made in 1969 through a law which disallowed billboards that blocked the view of areas of scenic beauty. A Massachusetts Court said: "We think that the preservation of scenic beauty and places of historical interest would be of sufficient support [for interfering regulations]. Considerations of taste and fitness may be a proper basis for action in protecting and developing the business for interfering devices."

Also, however, in ordinances passed by the town council of city one's businesses prohibiting certain uses that would block the view of our scenic places was struck down by our Supreme Court! It would stretch of a place anyway! But at least my commander is not Napoleon Bonaparte!

Finally, aesthetics came to its own in 1954 when the US Supreme Court said: "The concept of public welfare is broad and inclusive . . . The values it represents are spiritual as well as physical, aesthetic as well as monetary. It is within the power of the legislature to determine that the community should be beautiful as well as healthy, spacious as well as clean, well balanced as well as carefully patrolled."

Philippine courts soon followed, setting the tone how their recent decisions uphold "the unique beauty as a proper community objective, attainable through the use of police power. We are mindful of the reasoning of some courts that have upheld the validity of ordinances regulating outdoor advertising on purely aesthetic grounds. But we believe that the economics, health, safety or even morality. We do not feel, so constrained." And a Massachusetts court said: "The same clearly refers us to attendant the town bylaws, enacted primarily or solely for aesthetic reasons, are within the scope of the police powers. We conclude that aesthetics alone may justify the exercise of police power; that within the broad concept of 'general welfare,' views and scenes may enact reasonable billboard regulation designed to promote and improve their physical environment." (*Photo continued*)

Peoples' Lawyers in the time of war on terror

IT MAY BE PURE HAPPENSTANCE THAT AT THE beginning of the 3rd Congress of the International Association of Peoples' Lawyers (IAPL) that was held in Davao City months ago[sic], that killed and maimed hapless civilians in Mindanao, as in the past years. The congress—the first time it was held in the country—was attended by lawyers, law students and legal workers from the Philippines, the United States of America, Malaysia, Turkey, Brazil, India and the Philippines. Many of them focused on the role of lawyers in defending the democratic rights of the people, especially those caught in the so-called "war without borders"—a war being promoted by the Western countries led by the United States.

Kris-Crossing Mindanao

Carlos Isagani T. Zarate

But somehow it was the Philippine government and not the US government that was the target of the congress' ire. Perhaps because the congress began last month in Manila (proper friendly government officials immediately blasted the MILF and its alleged "foreign terrorist allies" as the perpetrators of the bombings. Other military officers also claimed that the bombings were revolutionary means by the Left to "spread the war," even as the Left was also being accused of being active in the aftermath

ANNOUNCEMENT

TAKE A STAND.
SUBSCRIBE TODAY.

Tell fence-sitting or whether you should subscribe to the Philippine Daily Inquirer or not! Take a stand and subscribe. Call us now and free yourself from the hassles of getting a copy of the Inquirer, and have it delivered to your doorstep. AT NO EXTRA CHARGE. Plus, get FREE monthly issues of Just Shop, Sunday Inquirer, Inquirer Golf and Inquirer Badminton.

Just choose from any of the following subscription plans:

SUBSCRIPTION 1	SUBSCRIPTION 2	SUBSCRIPTION 3
360 issues	180 issues	90 issues
+22 issues FREE/year	+10 issues FREE/year	+4 issues FREE/year
SAVE P396!	SAVE P180!	SAVE P72!

You can pay for any subscription plan by cash, MasterCard, or VISA. Go ahead, take a stand.

The Philippine Daily Inquirer delivers.

Call 896-6000 to subscribe!

The Melo Commission show

I DOUBT IF THE MELO COMMISSION CAN deliver justice to the victims of the extrajudicial killings in our country and their families. The commission was formed last Aug. 23. It's more than a month now and I still have to see something happening. The last is, despite its existence, the extrajudicial killings of activists continue.

It now appears to me that the commission, headed by former Supreme Court Justice Jose A.R. Melo, was created just to give the impression to the international community that the Arroyo administration is doing its part to solve the killings. But the commission's investigation could even lead to a whitewash.

The Melo Commission is duplicating the functions of the Commission on Human Rights, a constitutional body. I am dismayed that the first thing the Melo Commission did was to hear the testimony of the military and police officials. The first body that the President created to investigate the killings was Task Force Usig of the Philippine National Police. The task force failed even to unmask the masterminds and, from its findings, the government could not make progress in the prosecution of the cases.

I doubt the impartiality of the Melo Commission and its power to prosecute the witnesses.

—ARQ. GILBERT G. BELLEZA, O.Carm.
belezaf2006@yahoo.com

LETTERS

PCGG's record under Yorac argues vs its abolition

THIS IS IN RESPONSE TO SHAL H. CRUZ'S column "Why not just abolish the PCGG?" (PDI, 9/16/06).

I would like to point out and educate Cruz that the recovery of the $684-million Swiss bank deposits of the Marcoses would not have been possible if not for the untiring efforts, hard work, sheer dedication and unquestionable legal expertise of my late sister and former PCGG Chair Wendee B. Yorac. This amount was intended as restitution to victims of human rights violations during martial law and also to implement the Comprehensive Agrarian Reform Program. Sad to say, portions of the amount mysteriously disappeared before and after the 2004 elections. No one could give the real reason behind the disappearance.

My late sister instituted a multi-ranging review of cobwebs and not high standards of work ethics and culture in every government office assigned to her. Under her stewardship, the PCGG achieved and retained major victories in both local and foreign courts. The Sandiganbayan in July 2003 declared that the contested shares of stock of Philcomsat Holdings Corp. are owned by the farmers as the true and beneficial owners. The anti-graft court also declared that the government owns the millions of shares acquired through the coconut levy funds.

What else can Cruz not see regarding the late Heather B. Yorac's four-year sterling performance as PCGG chair? Is this a deliberate attempt by Cruz to ignore Yorac's accomplishments as PCGG chair or is Cruz just color blind and playful, perhaps?

—MARGARITA YORAC,
Tandang Sora, Quezon City

Why there has been no SSS pension increase

THIS IS IN REFERENCE TO THE LETTER OF Eligio Fuentes (PDI, 9/27/06) who described the interest deductions on Social Security System (SSS) salary loans as anti-poor. Had he said it is only the present administration that has failed to give pensioners a pension increase.

The interest deduction on the first year of the loan is part of the SSS' operational criteria. Prior to its implementation in March 2000, our Retain an Investment Loan salary loans ranged from 3 to 6 percent, which was below market rates. Under the SSS Charter, SSS investment earnings must be equivalent to prevailing market rates, based on the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas' Treasury bill rates.

The 3-percent service fee covers administrative expenses such as IT system maintenance, check printing and mailing, which is standard practice among lending agencies. Banks and financial institutions, including the government Service Insurance System, Unilever cover financial institutions. The SSS does not charge an application fee.

We don't object to a pension increase, but the SSS is not prepared to grant it at this time. Based on the calculations of our actuarial department, a one-time 10 percent increase to more than 1 million pensioners would amount to an additional annual disbursement of P34.7 billion. This would be a tremendous strain to the long-term viability of the SSS if done without the corollary increase in contribution rate.

The SSS operates a scaled pensions benefit system. Any increase in benefits should be matched with a corresponding hike in contributions. The present 9.4-percent contribution rate would have to be increased to 9.7 percent to support a 10-percent hike in pensions.

—JOEL P. VILLANUEVA,
assistant vice president,
Media Affairs Department,
Social Security System,
East Avenue, Diliman, QC

Panasonic
ideas for life

The high performing fax machine.
No wonder people choose Panasonic.

Plain Paper

KX-FM386
SRP: P9,980

KX-FP207
SRP: P8,990

KX-FP342
SRP: P6,580

Thermal

KX-FT931
SRP: P5,290

KX-FT933
SRP: P6,280

KX-FT937
SRP: P7,080

Laser

KX-FL512
SRP: P17,840

KX-FA76X Ink Film (2/box)
• Film used for KX-FP207, KX-FP342 and KX-FP378

KX-FA83X Toner Cartridge
• Toner used for KX-FL512

KX-FA84X Drum Unit
• Drum unit used for KX-FL512

KEY FEATURES	KX-FT931	KX-FT933	KX-FT937	KX-FP342	KX-FP362	KX-FM386	KX-FL512
Automatic Paper Cutter		●	●				
Document Feeder	10 sheets	10 sheets	10 sheets	30 sheets	30 sheets	10 sheets	250 sheets
Navigator Key	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
64 Level Halftone	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Copy Speed				4 PPM	4 PPM	4 PPM	16 PPM
Digital Speaker Phone			●		●	●	
Document Memory	30 pages (max)	30 pages (max)	30 pages (max)	30 pages (max)	30 pages (max)	30 pages (max)	170 pages (max)
Digital Answering System			●		●	●	
Sequential Broadcast	20 locations	20 locations	20 locations	20 locations	20 locations	20 locations	20 locations
Printer Function						●	●
Scanner Function						●	●
PC Fax						●	
*Caller ID Ready	●	●	●			●	

*Caller ID subscription required. Prices are based on suggested retail and are subject to change without prior notice. Features and design are subject to change without prior notice.

For dealer referrals, please call: Panasonic Philippines (Sales Division of PSPC)
Tel. Nos. 889-4685 to 96 • Fax No. 897-4556 • Email Address: grepic_systemsales@ph.panasonic.com

PBA tickets controlled by scalpers?

BECAUSE MY WIFE AND SON wanted to see their favorite basketball idols in person, I bought them tickets for the Oct. 5 opening ceremony of the PBA at the Araneta Coliseum. I called up the Ticketnet office on Sept. 26 and Sept. 27. On both occasions, the ladies I talked to told me that the tickets for the lower bay were being sold yet. On Sept. 28, a Friday, I again called 911.5555 but, to my dismay, the lady on the other end of the line told me that all tickets for the lower bay had been sold over-the-counter Sept. 22. How did it happen? Are the people in Ticketnet liars?

Anyway, because I really wanted to give my son and my wife the enjoyment of seeing their idols in person, I was forced to buy from persons gallery tickets. When we arrived at the venue, my son couldn't contain his excitement as he dragged me toward our seats. But, to my surprise, our seats had been given to "members" of the media, not seen sold.

Assuming they were indeed members of the media, didn't the PBA consider that I had paid for those seats for that particular time? I would have appreciated it had they told me in advance that those seats were not available anymore so that I didn't have to spend a considerable amount of money to pay for the seats that were not given to.

There are four things PBA Commissioner Noli Eala should look into if he is really bent on bringing the PBA closer to the people and "Bringing the Pride Back" to the league.

1. Check on the people selling the tickets because they might be selling it to "regular scalpers."

2. Make sure that the paying public gets what is due them.

—JOEL L. LIM,
jlc_chan@yahoo.com

Lacson's stand on nursing exam mess

IN CORRADO DE QUIROZ' COLumn "Cheating" (PDI, 10/16/06), my quote was located as a vindication of the President's way of resolving the nursing exam controversy.

Such is not the case.

The point that I seemingly gave Malacañang was made in the context of its past actions on matters of local and international importance... where, in going by fashion, it would mistake into the autonomy of other government agencies and concerns within their domains, thereby has Malacañang treated with caution a situation with possible political, socio-politico and economic spins. Turning around the nursing exam scandal so, that alone deserves some form of kudos, and that was the spirit in which my commendation was founded.

I agree with De Quiroz on the key points he discussed in close column, and I appreciate that he acknowledged my stand. I am also taking this opportunity to expound on his main premise by including the following measures delivering to the appellate court which is now studying the controversy, and ensuring a retake if, and only if, all questions have been satisfactorily answered and all culpable parties have been dealt with in a satisfactory fashion.

—SEN. PANFILO M. LACSON

The President's worst nightmare

FOR A TIME, GLORIA MACAPAgal-Arroyo was truly caught between a rock and a hard place in the nursing licensure exam mess.

When she ordered a retake, she infuriated thousands of nursing graduates who passed without cheating.

When she ordered "no-retake," she dimmed the awesome job prospects of those same graduates, and endangered the flow of dollar remittances which keep the economy afloat.

But her worst nightmare was if she had to finally order a retake, she would have pissed off her personal demize, Professional Regulation Commission Chair Leonor Tejano-Rosete. And the last time GMA would have to go to her for a root canal treatment, the President would have been dead meat.

—ESTER S. ORO,
13 San Matias,
Sto. Kapitolyo, Pasig City

'What he wants is what North Korea gets'

SEOUL—HE RULED TILL LAST FEBRUARY dictatorship, starving his own people and shunning his state as the star of the world...and now he claims to have done the unthinkable by testing an atom bomb.

But is North Korea's Kim Jong Il the nuclear-armed monster many in the West portray him to be?

"He hasn't invaded any other countries," says Peter Beck, a Korea expert from the International Crisis Group, offering a pointed comparison to Bush's foe, US President George W. Bush.

"He has fewer armored troops today in power than Iraq," Beck says. "The fact is that he has been in power for longer than Bush senior and junior combined."

Kim formally assumed control of North Korea in 1997, taking the reins of one of the world's most isolated and impoverished nations, which had previously been led by his father Kim Il Sung.

Like his father, the 64-year-old developed an extreme cult of personality, using propaganda, prison camps and a massive army to win God-like devotion from the North Korean people—who rule extremism if they ever try to define.

11 holes-in-one

From the sidelines that appeared over the tamed mountain where he was said to be born, to his 11 holes-in-one in a single round of golf, the official story of his life is steeped in myths of wisdom and greatness.

Yet many analysts say the portrait of Kim that has emerged outside his immediate regime, pieced together from scraps provided by the few people able to get into (or out of) the North, is nearly as flawed.

Bloodthirsty to a regime-guarding paranoia, with an appetite for fine dining and even finer women, before a roughly-sketched political outlet who has been able to defy the will of the superpower United States.

"The truth in the outside world is of that totally varied playboy. The real man is politically very shrewd," according to Michael Breen, author of a biography of the man known by North Koreans as the Dear Leader.

Playing weak hand well

"He has that North Korean skill of playing a weak hand well," Breen said in an interview with AFP earlier this year. "This is not a crazy or deluded man."

Officially Kim was born on Feb. 16, 1942, at sacred Mount Paektu. But independent reports say he was born in a guerrilla camp in Russia where his father was fighting Japanese forces who had colonized the Korean peninsula.

After graduating in 1964 from university—named, like so much else in North Korea, after his father—Kim began his climb through the ranks of the Workers' Party of Korea.

His rise reportedly included the planning of terror attacks meant to turn decades before the events of Sept. 11, 2001 terrorhosted the US-led "war on terror" which Washington says is a key reason for protecting Kim's regime.

He was said to be involved in planning a 1983 bombing in Burma (Myanmar) that killed 21 South Koreans, as well as the 1987 bombing of a Korean Air jet that killed all 115 people on board.

His father died in 1994 but retained the title of president for life, and Kim waited three years before formally assuming the reins of power.

During the 1990s, the country was hit by a famine that left hundreds of thousands, and possibly millions, dead. Reports emerged of the starving poor reduced to chewing on the bark of trees to stay alive.

People who managed to escape across the border into China, only to be repatriated, are believed to have been tortured or executed upon return. Relatives of dissidents are often treated harshly.

Breen's biography, "Kim Jong Il: North Korea's Dear Leader," details a gulag of prison camps and an atmosphere of total paranoia, where schoolchildren learn maths by adding and subtracting numbers of dead US soldiers. AFP

IN THE KNOW

UN Security Council resolution

THE UN SECURITY COUNCIL ADOPTED A draft resolution Saturday calling for wide-ranging sanctions against North Korea over its declared nuclear test. Here are the main points of the text:

The Security Council:

■ Considers that the nuclear test proclaimed by the DPRK (Democratic People's Republic of Korea—the official name for North Korea) on 9 October 2006 is flagrant disregard of its relevant resolutions.

Demands that the DPRK:

■ Not conduct any further nuclear test or launch of a ballistic missile.

■ Return to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons.

■ Abandon all nuclear weapons and existing nuclear programs in a complete, verifiable and irreversible manner.

Decides also that the DPRK shall abandon all other existing weapons of mass destruction and ballistic missile programs.

Decides that all member states shall prevent the direct or indirect supply, sale or transfer to the DPRK of:

■ Any battle tank, armored combat vehicle, large caliber artillery systems, combat aircraft, attack helicopters, warships, missiles or missile systems.

■ All items, materials, equipment, goods and technology ... which could contribute to the DPRK's nuclear-related, ballistic missile-related or other weapons of mass destruction-related programs.

■ Luxury goods.

Affirmative states shall ... freeze immediately the funds, other financial assets and economic resources ... that are owned or controlled, directly or indirectly, by the persons or entities designated by or in pursuing support for ... DPRK's nuclear-related, other weapons of mass destruction-related and ballistic missile-related programs.

In order to ensure compliance of this paragraph, and thereby preventing illicit trafficking in nuclear, chemical or biological weapons, their means of delivery and related materials, all member states are called upon to take in accordance with their national authorities and legislation and consistent with international law, cooperative action including through inspection of cargo to and from the DPRK, as necessary.

The Security Council:

■ Calls upon all member states to report to this Council within 30 days of the adoption of this resolution on the steps they have taken with a view to implementing effectively the provisions.

■ Welcomes and encourages further the efforts by all states concerned to intensify their diplomatic efforts, to refrain from any actions that might aggravate tension and to facilitate the early resumption of the six-party talks.

■ Calls upon the DPRK to return immediately to the six-party talks without precondition. AFP

Security Council OKs . . .

From page A1

nador, Hong Guangyu, said China would not participate in the inspection regime because it would create "troubles that could have serious implications for the region."

15-0 vote

The 15-0 vote reflected the immediate global alarm that such a weapon could wind up in the hands of terrorists or other rogue states.

After the vote, John R. Bolton, the American ambassador, insisted that China was bound by the resolution's terms and would have to find a way to comply with the inspections. "I can't believe that China won't adhere to obligations that the Security Council has imposed," he said.

Pak Gil Yon, the ambassador of North Korea, told the council that his government "totally rejected" the resolution. He said that if the United States continued to "increase pressure" on North Korea, his government would consider it a declaration of war and take "retaliatory measures."

In addition to the sanctions and search regime, the resolution demands that North Korea abandon all its weapons programs and rejoin the nonproliferation treaty, and it calls on the government to return to the negotiations table involving South Korea, Japan, China, Russia and the United States.

Bolton said, "We think this represents essentially what the United States was asking for when it abandoned its draft resolution on Monday."

Tougher moves

Japan yesterday said it was not only moving to enact the UN sanctions but also considering tougher measures.

"We are already considering them, and we want to make a final decision," Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe said.

He added that Japan would support US moves inspecting cargo going to and from of the North. Kyodo News agency reported, the same sources said, that Japan would also ease current steps of the new leader's pledge to give his country a more assertive role on the world stage.

Australia welcomed new UN sanctions as "unprecedentedly tough," and is likewise considering even stronger measures of its own, foreign Minister Alexander Downer said.

Downer, along with Japan a key US ally in the Asia-Pacific region, has strongly backed a swift international response to the North's claimed nuclear test last Monday which Canberra said threatens regional stability.

China-North Korea border

But China said it won't conduct any inspections, and its UN envoy called for caution.

"China strongly urges the countries concerned to adopt a prudent and responsible attitude in this regard and refrain from taking any provocative steps that may intensify the situation," Wang said.

The Chinese border with North Korea appeared quiet, and no inspections were apparent, the Associated Press reported.

An official at the border guard's only his family name, Wang, said he had not received any new instructions for inspections at Sanqing, a border town, adding things had "been normal the past few days."

At Tumen, another city, the officer on duty said the inspections office was closed on Sunday and her name "unclear" about the situation.

Calls to the Dandong checkpoint were referred to the cargo inspection division, where a man hung up the phone after refusing to answer questions.

Broad more on details

South Korea—which has taken a conciliatory approach on the North, including supplying massive amounts of aid—said it will host the UN resolution but did not elaborate on its plans for inspections.

South Korea's Unification Ministry, which handles inter-Korean affairs, also issued a statement pledging to take "necessary steps" to implement the UN resolution.

However, the ministry didn't give further details whether the necessary steps included actions on a routine sources and a joint industrial complex in the South.

Critics have urged the South Korean government to halt the two cash cow projects, saying that they may be diverted for the North's nuclear weapons program.

Russia pushes talks

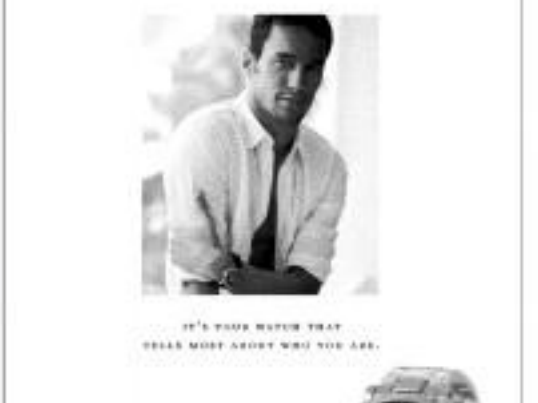
Also yesterday, Russian nuclear envoy Alexander Alexeyev arrived in South Korea for meetings on the nuclear standoff. Alexeyev visited North Korea last month, the first senior foreign official known to have traveled there since North Korea's Oct. 9 test.

Alexeyev declined to call reporters upon his arrival at Seoul's Incheon International Airport if he carried any message from the North.

When asked if he thought South Korea would return to the international arms talks it has boycotted since November, Alexeyev answered, "I hope."

The new UN secretary general, currently the foreign minister of South Korea, welcomed the resolution. But Ki-moon said the resolution sent a "very clear, strong and unified message" that Pyongyang claimed no other test was unacceptable.

But Ban cautioned it was important North Korea be engaged in dialogue—and not simply punished through sanctions. Reports from New York Times, AP



RP-US WAR GAMES
US Marines hustle for an impromptu tactical planning session during an assault drill in the "Balikatan" joint military exercises with Filipino troops in Floridablanca, Pampanga, yesterday

Go win-win, court urged on test leak

Francisco Ad

has indicted the Philippine nursing profession's image, and Brion believes a solution in which the appellate court would have a role could stop the filing in court of motions for reconsideration that could delay the resolution of an issue that has polarized many nurses in the country.

"I intend to exercise the Court of Appeals's power, suggesting a conciliatory approach," Brion, a former appellate court justice, said. "I can see that we can still come up with a win-win solution."

He said he had talked to CA Justice Vicente Dolino to inform him of his plan, and was told that the court would consider the suggestion.

Role for CA

"He told me, 'By all means, send it. Once we receive it, we will consider it.' He is not saying he'll approve it," Brion said of his talk with Dolino.

Asked what role he hoped the appellate court could play, Brion said: "The court can set up a meeting between the stakeholders."

Asked what the stakeholders could discuss in a conciliatory meeting, Brion said the various parties would talk about the courses of action they would take in line with the court's decision on Friday which requires a selective retake of the June examinations' Tests II and V which were affected by the leakage.

Airing out grievances

The court also ruled that the 1,687 graduates who were added to the list of passers after the PRC's recomputation of scores should retake the two tests.

It also ordered the reinstatement to the list of passers the 1,196 graduates whose names were removed following the recomputation.

The appellate court also allowed the passers who took the June exams in Metro Manila and Baguio City and who did not take the final marching rendition at the review centers implicated in the leakage to take their oath accordingly.

The PRC had said that more than 17,000 of the estimated 45,000 nursing candidates passed the exam.

A new nursing board

Brion also said that in a conciliatory meeting, the stakeholders could air their sentiments about and suggest solutions to the various issues they had been facing.

He added that a conciliatory meeting would please the parties involved in the issue in a friendlier manner.

"These stakeholders had not met together in a non-adversarial atmosphere," he said, adding that they probably had only counsel/s who when they filed their legal petitions before the appellate court and during oral arguments called by the court.

Brion also said that aside from resolving the leakage issue, the government was intent on ensuring that the next nursing licensure exam in December would not be tainted, and on reactivating the Board of Nursing whose members had resigned.

What Brion implied had been taken care of, he said the Board would draft to the PRC.

"We will check its process leaders' administrative liability. Then we will look at the system of the PRC," Brion said.

Presidential orders

The PRC had been criticized by those calling for a retake of the exams for its decision to recompute the grades after the discovery of the leakage.

PRC Chair Leonor Rosero has maintained that the examinations is against a retake because it believes that the suggestion of the grades had nullified the leakage's effects.

Rosero earlier also accused Brion and Exec Asg. who heads the Commission on Higher Education, of "intruding" into the PRC's affairs. Brion and Asg. both subscribed a categorically retake of the nursing exam portions affected by the leakage.

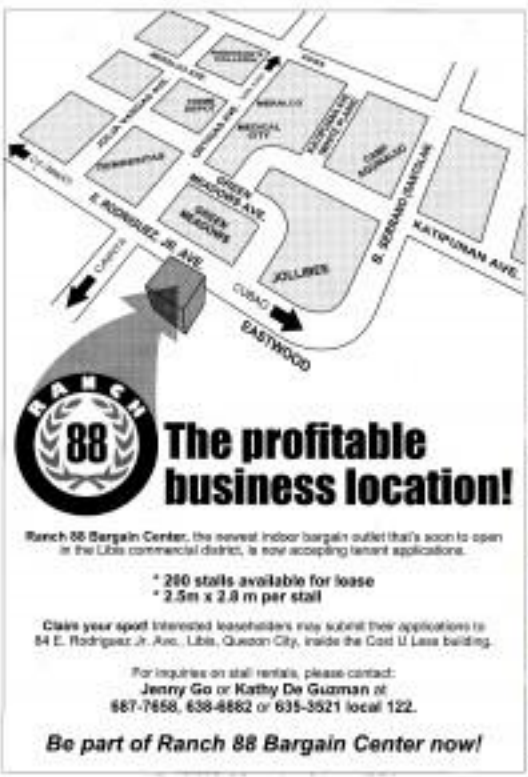
Before the meeting on, Mr Arroyo has ordered the agencies concerned to undertake measures to ensure there would be no repeat of the cheating scandal.

Presidential Executive have been sent to the Department of Labor and Employment, the PRC, the Commission on Higher Education (CHED) and other agencies, Press Secretary Ignacio Bunye said yesterday.

Never again

"All stakeholders should join hands to ensure that this never happens again," Bunye said, saying that the controversy "has] struck a blow and unfairly brought a stigma to Filipino professionalism."

"We have to protect the integrity and competitiveness of our students and professionals who comprise our principal and most important resource," the presidential spokesperson said.



HUNDREDS of nursing graduates who passed the controversial licensure exam in rally at Luneta Boulevard in Manila during a recent nationwide protest against a retake of the June tests.

'It's possible to eradicate poverty'

From page A1

On Sunday, the former economics professor flew to the southern port city of Chittagong to pay tribute to the women of nearby Jobra village where he started his pioneering scheme.

"I've come here to say thanks to the people of Chittagong, especially the women of Jobra village, who showed that microcredit could indeed eradicate poverty," Yunus told a reception in Chittagong city.

He also made an impassioned appeal to the country's politicians to reach a consensus on election reforms in a bid to pave the way for free and fair general polls in January next year.

"The whole world is looking at us after the Nobel Prize. It's now perfect time for the two major parties to reach a consensus so that we have a smooth election," Yunus said.

Yunus then rose to the defense in a single-sitting and happily told the people that they've agreed to participate in the elections," he added.

Bangladesh's main opposition Awami League said its 13 leftist allies have demanded to boycott polls unless the ruling Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP) removes "pro-government" elements of its task and agrees to reforms.

Pride and delight

Across Bangladesh at the weekend, however, people expressed their pride and delight at Yunus' award.

In the village of Sathasari near Chittagong, around 2,000 people took to the streets in a celebratory procession, according to the AFP's Bangla television network.

At Begger in the central Manikganj district, the channel showed more than 10,000 people bearing drums and chanting "Light the lamp of Yunus in every home" as they marched through the town.

Borrowers who paid tribute to the economist whose unique microcredit system has been replicated in more than 40 countries.

"Grameen Bank has changed a life poor woman like me into a small businesswoman with a home and good livelihood," said 51-year-old Rhajida. Like the mother's Monowarah district, who took out her first loan to buy a cow 12 years ago and now runs a thriving cow business with her sons jobless husband.

"The difference between my life now and then is like the difference between day and night. I don't have words to say how happy I am that Muhammad Yunus has won this prize," she said. (See related story on Page A12.)

Grameen Bank began life as a pilot project when Yunus was a professor of rural economics at Chittagong University.

The project set out to prove that lending to the poorest in society was not an "impossible proposition" and to break the cycle of poverty created by indebtedness and moneylenders. AFP

TUNGI (center) is accompanied by his family and supporters as he lays a wreath at The National Monument in Savar on the outskirts of Dhaka in memory of those who died in the 1971 War of Independence, a day after receiving news of his Nobel Peace Prize award. AFP

$42 loan changed poor woman's life

From page A1

poor," said Rhajida, from Kathali village in the northern Monmanigh district.

"I used to only eat one meal a day and some days I could not eat at all. My husband did not have any work and we lived in miserable conditions," said Margina, who uses one name.

The bank, which targets women because it believes they are better than men at meeting family finances, has given small loans to more than 6.6 million people in Bangladesh to help them become self-employed.

"I borrowed 5,000 taka for a cow and I started earning money by selling milk. Then I took another loan to buy a cart for the cow to pull and then another one to buy a mobile phone (to sell calls)," said Margina.

'Phone ladies'

Branching out to become one of Bangladesh's most ubiquitous "village phone ladies," who generate income by hiring out mobile phones by the minute, Margina began to gain confidence.

"I earn my life was changing and it made me very happy. Now I run a rice business and four months ago, I borrowed 96,000 taka ($1,371) to buy a shop in the market where I run the business with my husband," she said.

"Grameen Bank has changed a dire poor woman like me into a small business woman with a home and good livelihood," she added.

"The difference between my life now and then is like the difference between day and night. Before (Grameen) nobody, not even my own father, would look at me.

"I don't have words to say how happy I am that Muhammad Yunus has won this prize. I don't (really) know what it is but I'm very happy because I think it has as a member of my own family for all he has done for us," she said.

Crossing poverty line

Like Margina, mother-of-three Amina Gharan, 40, from Gaur village, also in Monmanigh district, took her first loan to buy a cow in 1996.

Loans are given for purchases that will help the borrower become self-supporting such as a rickshaw, a piece of equipment, chickens or a mobile phone.

Rashida's family lived in a one-room hut made from mud and leaves, and her fifteen husband earned barely enough to provide one meal a day.

During the rainy season, water would pour through the roof and the whole hut had to be constantly rebuilt after storms.

"First I bought a cow and then I took another loan to buy another cow," Hasina said.

"I used to sell milk in the market and gradually we continued to improve. Grameen Bank gave me hope that I could have a better life.

"I continued taking loans and I bought a piece of land to build a tin-and-wood home with four rooms. Now we also have a latrine, a water pump and we have also bought some small pieces of land to grow vegetables.

"These days, we are a good farming family. Day by day, we crossed the poverty line with the help of Grameen Bank and all our three children go to school."

Other families

In Rashida's village, other families, too, have benefited from Yunus' microcredit concept with borrowers more than doubling over 10 years from 68 in 1996 to 113 today.

"Before all the borrowers were landless and they lived in huts on land belonging to other people," Rashida said.

"There was no business and the only work was to be a laborer or a rickshaw puller by leaving the rickshaw from someone else.

"Nobody's children could go to school due to poverty and we used to have them into child labor. Everyone was landless and we couldn't even have thought of getting a loan from a bank."

"Now, nobody in the families who have taken loans works as a laborer, they all live in good conditions with latrines and water pumps at their houses. We've bought land, the houses are more solid and all the children go to school," Hasina said.

"Our poverty is removed and everything has been done by taking loans from Grameen Bank." AFP

6 DAYS TO GO!
Anson's
HOLIDAY
DEALS
AWAIT YOU AT
GLORIETTA ACTIVITY CENTER
AYALA CENTER, MAKATI CITY
OCTOBER 5-21, 2006
laGERMANIA
SL-8041 30WTR
G-65121a
F-6508Sx
SL-640 30WTR
HC-3160B
H-631 INOX
Fisher&Paykel
E-381TRE
C-373
E-522BRX
H-280BL
MAKATI
845-3006 TO 08
FAX 892-1395
819-1513 819-1354
ALABANG
772-3684 & 85
ORTIGAS
632-9483 TO 85
MANILA
241-3350
243-2101
CEL NO. 0922-Ansons
(267687)
anssonsathome@yahoo.com

Across the NATION

Farmers start caravan vs killings today

CITY OF SAN FERNANDO—ABOUT 5,000 FARMERS AND FISHERMEN FROM six Central Luzon provinces and Pangasinan will converge here today to kick off a two-day caravan against political killings allegedly by government security forces and the continuing war games by American soldiers in the Philippines.

The caravan will traverse cop pound heavily "militarized" areas like this Pampanga capital and nearby Bataan town, and then proceed in a rally at the gate of the Clark Special Economic Zone in Angeles City, where US troops are training, according to Joseph Canlas, chair of the Alyansyang Magbubukid ng Filipinas (AMF) under the Pambansang Lakas ng Kilusang Mamamalakaya ng Pilipinas (Pamalakaya) will march 30 vehicle convoys in Bataan on Sunday to meet up the ARMM contingent for a caravan in the province's villages where several sectoral meetings had taken place.

A total of 110 activists, including Aglipayan Bishop Alberto Ramento, have been killed in the region since February 2001, according to the human rights group Karapatan.

The group also recorded 23 victims of massacres, 20 victims of frustrated killings and 10 victims of forced disappearances.

Gerry Albert Corpuz, Pamalakaya information officer, said his group and AMP's secretary general Jaime Paraiso in Bataan Gov. Josefina de la Cruz and Mayors Pedro Ilyle of Hagonoy and Zaldy Santiago of Orani and Danilo Ramos of Balanga of Malaya City.

He said the petition would ask the local officials to seek the pullout of Army scholars in villages.

A fact-finding mission will be held in Orlando in memory of Pamalakaya leaders Orlando Rivera and Napoleon Rivera who were killed in August this year.

"We will deliver a strong political statement against extra-judicial killings and other forms of human rights abuses perpetrated by agents of the state. We will oblige the local government officials of Bataan to make a stand in defense of civil liberties, dignity of life and civil liberties," Pamalakaya national chair Fernando Hicap, said in a statement here.

Also scheduled by the Commission on Human Rights last August in Angeles City, army commanders in Central Luzon had denied their roles in several reported abuses.

Pedro Mabolo Dizi, the Central Luzon caravan will proceed to Manila for the two-day "Hinaing ng Masang Anakpawis Laban Kidnapings, Kagutuman, Pasasalang at Charter Change (March of the Toiling Masses against Poverty, Hunger, Killings and Charter Change)."

Last month, Karapatan and the Mothers and Relatives against Tyranny (Martyr) submitted urgent appeals to the Geneva-based United Nations Council on Human Rights who is convening in the United States to intervene in the Central Luzon situation.

"The Philippines is a signatory to the International Covenants on Civil and Political Rights. It is ironic, however, that Filipino citizens to experience systematic derogation and violation of their citizens' rights. Under the present administration of President Macapagal-Arroyo, these violations have reached of under a climate of intense state repression and persecution with the proliferation of death squads attacking and physically eliminating with impunity hundreds of unarmed and defenseless civilians critical of the Arroyo administration," Karapatan and Martyr said in the appeals dated Sept. 26.

The groups asked the UN body to urge the Philippine government "to forestall the spate of extrajudicial executions, enforced disappearances, torture and other forms of attacks against civil and political rights and prevent the further unleashing of havoc on the lives of the civilian populace in Central Luzon and in the entire Philippines."

Rosette Ordaz, Inquirer Central Luzon

STAFF CADET Alexandra Worldowes gets help from Second Class Cadet Olivia Espiritus in training earlier a mock combat exercise with the members of the Royal Military Academy of Australia and PMA. They were the only women to join the exercise. The Australians attempted to use PMA's makeshift gear for the training, as part of a sharing program.

We are loving you to the MESCO 50th ANNIVERSARY

METAL MANUFACTURING TECHNOLOGY SHOW - 2006

Oct 18 to 21 (Wed to Sat - 10am to 6pm) at MESCO BUILDING

MAZAK - NEW NEXUS SERIES OF CNC MACHINES

AMADA METAL FORMING MACHINES

STANDARD MANUAL MACHINE TOOLS

GREATEST BIGGEST LOWEST

3- DAY EXTENSION

PROJECTOR SALE

OCTOBER 20- 21- 22, 2006 (9 AM TO 6 PM)

30% off on all accessories

Toshiba Notebook

COSMOTECH Projector World

S.O.S. SORSOGON

Appeals for help in cash or in kind to help rehabilitate schools, markets and churches in the province hardest hit by "Milenyo."

A report from Fr. Gerard Deveza and Counselor David Duran says they bought P92,800 worth of nails, P98,000 nipa shingles, P80,000 wooden posts, P25,000 roofsander and P5,000 worth of bamboo shingles, from the P500,000 sent to them last Oct. 13.

The barangays they helped this weekend are Talisay and Sampaloc and more to be helped are Balogo, Sampaloc, Biton-o, Kumbalaga, Pi-ot, Peñafrancia, Pamorayan, Homales, Pandol, Pal-lol and Bolabog. Trucks they have used were donated for use by local residents.

An area donated to the Bishop by Consuelo Madrigal will be built with more permanent housing for fishermen's families.

More donations have been received. The report from Amorena Grejo-Uranza includes: Ruben Balane, P5,000; Teresita Ereneta, P1,000; Lourdes de Ocampo, P12,000; Teresita Sison-Go, P10,000 and Jane Torres, P1,000.

GMA Kapuso Fund, according to the answer sent by Nonnie de la Fuente, has sent a representative to Sorsogon to assess the school needs. Kapuso will be working with Habitat for Humanities who responded to the appeal of S.O.S. Sorsogon last week through Margie Moran.

For particulars please call: Ella Duran Nolasco, tel. 646-9980, Amorena Grejo-Uranza, 928-9864 or 373-0810 or fr. Gerard Deveza, 0917-5382023 or 0918-9008925.

Cash or checks may be deposited at Bank of the Philippine Islands, account number 0011168701. Total so far: P1,068,000.00

Watch this space Monday, Wednesday and Friday for reports on S.O.S. Sorsogon

Police tighten security in Cebu

By Doreen Nepthaleen
Inquirer Visayas

CEBU CITY—THE TOP POLICE official in Central Visayas has ordered his men to enhance the implementation of anti-terrorism measures following the series of bombings in Central Mindanao.

Chief Supt. Silverio Alecto Jr. said, that although there was no information that in Cebu at the moment, the police force remained on alert and is monitoring reports that followers of Jemaah Islamiyah bomber Dulmatin had arrived in Cebu.

"As of now, we are checking with the intelligence community. There is no confirmation yet from them," Alecto said Thursday.

Alecto said investigators were also checking if the terrorists were planning to extend their activities here to disrupt the Association of Southeast Asian Nations Unusual summit scheduled to be held in Cebu in December.

Even before the bombings in Central Mindanao, the police had stepped up intersection measures, but had to augment them because of the incidents, he said.

They were beefing up their barangay intelligence network to get greater intelligence and strengthened security at possible terrorist targets like seaports, airports, amusement establishments and other crucial establishments. We are talking to the security officers to review their security procedures and strengthen it," Alecto said.

"In short, we make it hard for the perpetrators to commit atrocities in these territorial lands."

He said enforcement based in Cebu were also being trained on how to respond to terrorist attacks.

The police were closely coordinating with the military in Cebu, as well as with different (emergency) groups such as Disaster Response Rescue Unit Foundation, he said.

Alecto urged community members to help them in keeping Cebu safe. "We want everyone to play a role by providing information," he said.

Pagasa sets up disaster alert gadgets in S. Leyte

MAASIN CITY—OVER NINE months after the mudslide tragedy in Guinsaugon, St. Bernard, Southern Leyte, the Philippine Atmospheric, Geophysical and Astronomical Services Administration (Pagasa) will set up early warning devices in strategic areas in the province.

Weather specialist Armando Torres Sr., told members of the provincial development council during its regular monthly meeting that the agency would install rain gauges, water level markings in bridges crossing the Bakar River, and side gauges in poor areas in strategic areas in St. Bernard and other municipalities, and in the capital city.

Torres, who heads Eastern Visayas regional office in the province, said all barangays of St. Bernard would have rain gauge each and water level markings in big rivers.

All other municipalities will have two rain gauges and water level markings while the towns with ports will get side gauges, he said.

The weather bureau will purchase 10 manual rain gauges at P5,000 each and 25 automatic ones at P8,000 each.

The manual rain gauges are manufactured locally but socalled by the World Meteorological Organization, while the automatic devices are imported and have sophisticated devices of their digital features, Torres said.

Local governments in the side or provinces will pay for similar early warning systems to be set up in their respective areas, he said.

"But I love (a Southern Leyte) (the Guinsaugon) people will be financed by the United Nations Development Program (UNDP) following the harrowing experience of Guinsaugon."

The entire village was buried in a massive mudslide falling at least 1,000 people. About 900 more villagers, including some 200 schoolchildren, were declared missing and presumed dead.

Torres said his team had validated more than half of the proposed sites and would return in November for the installation of the early warning system in these areas.

Inez Arenas, Inquirer Visayas

AEL
ROADWAY LUMINAIRE
FEATURES
- Powder-coated, die-cast aluminum housing for durability & corrosion resistance.
- Prismatic glass refractor for uniform lighting distribution.
- Heat-resistant "breathing seal" gasket prevents intrusion by insects and other contaminants.

6 years warranty
on the factory installed electrical system marked ignitor capacitor lamp socket, PCC receptacle, and wiring under normal operating condition

Call us for FREE Technical Advice and Estimate:
Legrand Commercial, Inc.
The Global Choice for High Quality Electrical Products
43-44 9th Avenue cor. J. Tuazon St., Kaloocan City
Tels.: (02) 364-4981 to 88 Fax: (02) 363-8961
E-mail: mail@legrandcommercial.com

ROUNDUP

3 hurt in blasts

ANGELES CITY—Two explosions rocked a vacant lot near a textile factory in Teresita here, injuring a construction worker and his 20-year-old helper and damaging 200 meters. City police chief Senior Supt. Policarpio Dagohoy identified the injured as John Henry Pascual and his helper Louie. They were treated for burns at the hospital. The explosion illegal factory. An initial blast at 10:45 a.m. Friday and the second at 11:45 a.m. Dagohoy, in a phone interview by Lea Perla, according to Dagohoy. Dagohoy said investigators were still sifting the rubble of the blast.

Cynthia Rojas, Inquirer Central Luzon

Social work award

LUCENA CITY—The Association of Local Social Welfare and Development Officers of the Philippines Inc. (ALSWDO) has named Quezon Gov. Wilfredo Enverga "Outstanding Governor of the Philippines" following the 2006 national conference and workshop held in Lucena City. Enverga received the award on October 6 at the Manila Hotel. He was cited for his efforts to improve the plight of the poor. Wilfredo Enverga is currently serving his fourth Governor and previously served as vice governor and provincial board member. Social Welfare Secretary Esperanza Cabral and ALSWDO national president Ernesto Morinido also awarded Tagbilaran mayor Roman Punzal. Lucena Mayor Ramon Talaman received the award for LGBT in the city.

Militiaman found dead

DIGNOS CITY—A militiaman, believed to have been abducted last month by New People's Army rebels, was found dead by Task Force Davao last Wednesday. Maj. Patrick Velez, public information officer of Task Force Davao, said Private Marcos Villaflores Sibulan, Sta. Cruz, Davao del Sur had been missing since Sept. 3. He said Division 402 first notified Villaflores' commanding officer Lt. Col. Jaime Ibarra about the incident. Velez said Villaflores was abducted by NPA rebels under Davao Occidental-based front 435 with the military.

Roel A. Uy Sarmiento, Inquirer Mindanao

P20-M road project

JOSE ABAD SANTOS, Davao del Sur—The government has earmarked P20 million for a road project that would link this town to Davao Occidental province. Gov. Benjamin Bautista said the road would open up agricultural industry activities in the largest but also shortest farm-to-market route to Digos City, where the Davao del Sur provincial capitol is located. Bautista said the secondary Virgilio Lacuesta, chair of the Mindanao Economic Development Council, had requested for the original construction the local government undertook a memorandum of agreement with the Department of Public Works and Highways.

Erlie Aguirre, Inquirer Mindanao

2 cops found dead

MAGINDANAO—Two police officers were found dead from disembowelment in a remote village here on Sept. 10. Supt. Kadil Mamalud, chief of the Datu Piang Municipal Police Station, identified the victims as PO2 Salahuddin Pasir and PO1 Hussin Abdul, both assigned to the Senator Ninoy Aquino Municipal Unit Mobile Police Company station.

Edwin Fernando, Inquirer Mindanao

6 soldiers hurt in clash

SARANGANI CITY—Six members of the Army's 1st Scout Rangers Company were wounded in a clash with Abu Sayyaf bandits on Mount Tanggulo in Pitogo, Sulu on Oct. 8 (U.S. Philippine time), chief of Philippine Marine Corps Public Affairs Office Lt. Col. Rolando Bautista said. Bautista said the soldiers were on combat operation when they encountered the bandits around 10:30 a.m. (Philippine time). "There was a heavy exchange of fire. We cannot determine the actual number of casualties on the side of the bandits," Bautista said. Maj. Eugene Barrera, spokesperson of the Western Mindanao Command, said the bandits were led by Ruddon Sabiron, alias Komando Pulot.

Jude Ajoda, Inquirer Mindanao

Philippine Dermatological Society
www.pds.org.ph
"Onward with Strength through Expertise and Solidarity"
Stronger at 54
The 7th National Skin Disease Detection and Prevention Week
(SKINWEEK)
November 12-18, 2006
Theme: Balat ... Alagaan Laban sa Sakit
Highlights:
• Research Forum • Lectures and Free Clinics
30th Annual Convention
in cooperation with
American Academy of Dermatology
"Upholding Excellence in Dermatology"
Highlights: • Keynote Address by Stephen P. Stone, MD, AAD President
• Plenary Lectures by AAD Speakers
Pre Convention Workshops • November 15, 2006
Basic Dermatologic Surgery, Bayanihan Hall, United Laboratories
Laser Workshop, Isla Ballroom 1 & 2, EDSA Shangri-La Hotel
Main Convention: November 16-17, 2006
EDSA Shangri-La Hotel, Mandaluyong City
Free Public Screening for Psoriasis, World Psoriasis Day, October 29, 2006
8:00 AM • Rajah Sulayman Park, Roxas Blvd., Manila

E. Visayas schools focus on values education

By Vicente S. Latoza
Inquirer Visayas

TACLOBAN CITY—THE EDUCATION department in Eastern Visayas is not resting on its laurel, even if the region has consistently topped the National Achievement Test or similar national tests in the past five years or so.

Even before the NAT results were out this year, the Department of Education has already launched a program on values development that would complement its existing academic programs.

Brilliance in character

The values education program, dubbed as Advancing Brilliance in Character (ABC) program, is now being given focus in public schools in the region, Deped-9 regional information officer Rebecca Lucero Rapsing told the Inquirer.

The ABC, which Rapsing said was a brainchild of Deped-8 Regional Director Ted Sienega, aims "to build a region with values imbued with human values anchored on the overarching value of human dignity of every citizen in the region."

Complementary program

"We do not sit down and relax because we always top the achievement test. There has to be a complementary program, which is directed to the development of the whole person," Rapsing said.

Under the guiding principles of the ABC program, she said, Deped would like to promote human values as bases for brilliance in character and excellence in thought and action holistically to include feeling, thinking and acting.

Under the ABC program, value themes are chosen for each month under the heading of a quarterly core values, such as love of God, love of people, love of country, and love of nature.

The introduction of the values of tourism, however, did not diminish the efforts to improve or strengthen the academic performance of the students.

Shortly after the results for the NAT were released this year, Sienega called for an intensive monitoring of some public schools in the region, especially those with low mean percentage scores in the NAT so that interventions could be made to heighten the students' academic performance.

Collaboration

Asked what made the region a consistent topnotcher in the NAT, Sienega attributed this to the collaborative efforts of the teachers, parents, the community and other stakeholders.

According to Rapsing, preparation is also a big factor in achieving good NAT results. "So the past we only prepare for the test when it is already at hand, meaning the preparation is (made) a month before, two months before. So what happens is the students are scattering, the teachers are also cramming," she said.

Intervention

She said what they do now is to emphasize the intervention at the start of the school year.

"We focus on the low performing schools and let them make intervention schemes on how to increase their (academic) performance level," Sienega added.

Eastern Visayas topped again this year's NAT both for the first year and fourth year levels and was one of the topperformers in the Grade 6 level.

THE BAGUIO City government is conducting an inventory of its local billboard frames among the summer capital. Old owners have wanted to have down too before illegally collaterize its commercial.

New Face of People Power

By **Ben Evardone**
Governor, Eastern Samar
PRO, Union of Local Authorities of the Philippines

Remember that our nation gifted the world with the phenomenon of modern People Power two decades ago, paving the way for the toppling of dictatorships elsewhere by peaceful mass movements. Now it is ironic that the well-educated sectors of Philippine society, some of them the former leading lights themselves of our bloodless uprising, have become stubborn in clinging to old ways that no longer work, unable to recognize that a new People Power revolution is underway.

Elites against the popular will

Betraying a seeming disdain for the masa, elite groups engaged in last-minute maneuvers to wreck the People's Initiative pushed by localities and ordinary citizens as a means to amend the Constitution and overhaul of the US-style bicameral presidential system that has failed them.

The so-called leaders of civil society and the political opposition are casting serious doubts on the capability of ordinary Filipinos to exercise their sovereign power to initiate direct action in amending the Charter, or even to comprehend constitutional reforms proposing the switch to a gridlock-free unicameral Parliamentary System. These elitist leaders are saying that this "People Power" incarnate is a sham because ordinary Filipinos do not understand the intricacies of Charter change, let alone the proposed systemic change.

The haughty implication is that the masa are an ignorant lot incapable of making value judgments. This, even if the Union of Local Authorities of the Philippines (ULAP), has, in tandem with Sigaw ng Bayan, conducted after the Holy Week, a 100-day "ULAP sa TDP" consultative summits in all 79 provinces, precisely to inform our people about, and get their feedback on, the proposed shift to parliamentary government.

Worse, these elite groups are even casting aspersion on the integrity of the signature gathering campaign by alleging it to be spurious—simply because they find it unbelievable for the masa to gather in record time as many as 9 million signatures, of which 6.3 million have been verified by city and municipal officers of the Commission on Elections (Comelec) as authentic registered voters in all 213 legislative districts.

Elites betray democracy

What these critics refuse to accept is that this avalanche of support is a manifestation of the worsening public disaffection with our political system and many of its leaders, and their fervent desire to fix it via the most democratic mode of doing it, which is the People's Initiative.

EDSA I, which toppled the Marcos dictatorship, was a direct consequence of 20 years of the people's struggle for justice and democracy. The same is true for the current People's Initiative, which is the consequence of an increasing public disgust over the poisoned political atmosphere.

This endeavor has received a tremendous boost from the phenomenon of people empowerment that has been gradually institutionalized in local governments units (LGUs) ever since the enactment of the 1991 Local Government Code exactly 15 years ago last Oct. 10.

Because of this Code, our people, down to the barangay level, have become more involved in government decision-making. Local government units cannot approve and enact their budgets without prior public consultations. Even foreign-funded projects have to undergo public consultations to allow our local executives to determine if these are acceptable to our constituencies.

Local government projects endorsed to the National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA) and the Investment Coordinating Council (ICC) should first win endorsement by the people down to the barangays, prior to their submission for national-government funding.

True enough, this Code has made people participation mandatory in practically all aspects of official decision-making. This is people empowerment in action and a prime example of participatory democracy that the elite refuses to acknowledge. But such a pathetic resistance to change is to be expected, for such bold reforms will claim as its first casualty the elite's stranglehold on political and economic power under our failed presidential system.

Remove the roadblocks now

What truly riles opponents of the People's Initiative is that the masa have exercised their sovereign power as enshrined in the 1987 Charter, a power they have ceded for the longest time to the ruling elites.

Ordinary citizens decided to take a direct hand in changing the political course that our nation will take, with or without the backing of the traditional elite. The people came in droves to sign up for the People's Initiative as a form of protest over an overly centralized government structure that has for decades undercut political stability and economic independence.

Our people now believe that only through Initiative can they decide for themselves—instead of again leaving their sorry fate in the hands of a powerful few—what is good for future generations.

Time is running out. This is the last chance for us to escape the heavily poisoned atmosphere that has dulled our global competitiveness and turned the Philippines from a postwar economic powerhouse—second only to Japan—to one of Asia's basket cases. Given the irreversible trend of nationwide support for the People's Initiative, the elite should bow to the popular will and let the citizenry decide via a plebiscite on whether they want real change or just more of the same.

PAID FOR BY GOVERNOR BEN EVARDONE

Quezon puts down 300 billboards

LUCENA CITY—MORE THAN 300 BILLboards and signages sprouting along the Maharlika Highway in Quezon have been ordered torn removed by the Department of Public Works and Highways.

Romeo Tan of the DPWH Quezon 4th Engineering District said they have already removed more than 20 small outdoor advertisements that they found obsolete and illegally constructed.

He said the dismantled billboards were constructed within the legal scope of the highway.

"We're still in the process of evaluation. As soon as we're finished, we will immediately start our full operations to remove boardsites and illegal structures along the road," Tan said.

He said there were more than 300 billboards and signages that they will have to dismantle along the Maharlika Highway stretch from the municipal jurisdiction—from Pagbilao town up to the Quezon-Rizal boundary.

Tan said they have also stopped the processing of application permits for new roadside advertisement structures.

Atty. Ephraim "Mayong" Suplido, giant advertisement billboards, President Macapagal-Arroyo had ordered the removal of structures that violated the law and were threats to public safety.

Meanwhile, Tan said the typhoon caused an estimated P18 million worth of damaged roads and bridges in the 4th district of the province.

He said once the funds were released they would immediately start reconstructing the damaged portion. —Delfin T. Mallari Jr., Inquirer Southern Luzon

25 Vietnamese suspected of rice smuggling freed

BUTUAN CITY—CUSTOMS AUTHORITIES here said the 25 Vietnamese nationals earlier held on suspicion of rice smuggling had been freed for lack of evidence.

Josefa Villamblor, acting customs collector, said she also ordered the release of MV Tuna Vitchebong.

"There was no material proof to show evidence of rice smuggling against the crew of the Vietnamese ship," Villamblor told the Inquirer.

On Sept. 22, authorities impounded the Vietnamese vessel and locked up the 25 crew following reports they unloaded 600 bags of rice to motorized bancas owned by soldier-first Salamero in Cateel, Agusan del Norte.

The ship had earlier unloaded 87,337 bags of imported rice in the National Food Authority warehouse in Surigao City.

Villamblor said based on their investigation, the crew had indeed unloaded rice off Cateel but then only did so because they were running out of supplies.

The ship, she said, encountered engine trouble while on its way to Cagayan City and the crew negotiated with local fishermen for food in exchange of rice.

"They (Vietnamese) unloaded six (bag) that was only to reward him for with fishermen for fish and animal products," Villamblor said.

Villamblor said before the crew was released, they were fined P40,000 for violating port and customs laws.

Surrigao ships bringing in goods are only allowed to unload their cargo in their specified ports of destination.

MV Tuna Vitchebong had yet been issued permit to unload cargo in Cateel. —Fernando M. Cañgcoil, Inquirer Mindanao

Cleanup of toxic waste dumps in Quezon starts

A DENR personnel monitors an inventory of toxic drums in Quezon province.

QUEZON CITY—A massive cleanup of toxic wastes dumped in Quezon province has started, with local officials to file charges against those responsible for the dumping, a provincial environment official said on Wednesday.

The urgent task is to conduct remedial decontamination of the area," Gene Bolo, head of the Quezon Environment and Natural Resources Office, said in a phone interview.

He said the immediate objective of the cleanup is to ensure that the toxic wastes could not "fall definitely, someone should be held responsible for the environmental destruction and for putting them in human safety."

Two weeks ago, the Department of Environment and Natural Resources and an environmentalist group found the dumps littered with hundreds of plastic and steel drums containing toxic industrial wastes in Barangay Binagbag, Candelaria town, and in a secondary site in Sariaya town.

The dumps have stirred nationwide public outcry after residents in Barangay Binagbag, Candelaria town, and in a second site in Sariaya town, complained of health problems they said were caused by the toxic wastes.

The wastes were traced to Clean Earth Solutions Environmental Inc. (CESE), a licensed waste recycler with a plant in Sitio Bakle Cleveland, Laguna.

The DENR temporarily closed the plant pending results of its investigation of possible violations of environmental laws.

CESE subsequently offered to clean the dumps. Gen Rivera it was necessary to start the cleanup in Binagbag first.

Hired initially, Bautista was excluded by CESE trucks from the area and brought back to its plant.

As of Saturday, 139 drums and six cubic meters of soil and liquefied toxic wastes had been retrieved.

Bolo said the toxic chemicals in the pit were mixed with soil and were being dug up by a backhoe and placed in sacks for hauling.

He said DENR had secured the services of a waste-proper specialist in the cleanup of hazardous wastes.

"The workers have only been tasked with removing and retrieving the drums from the dump," Bolo said.

One of the workers said his group was each being paid P300 a day by CESE to clean the site.

Sheila de Leon, director of Tanggol Kalikasan-Southern Tagalog, witnessed the cleanup operations and expressed satisfaction with the initial effort of the company.

"Cleaning up of the site of toxic waste is one thing and the culpability of the company is another should the court find it criminally liable," she explained.

Candelaria municipal environment and natural resources officer Celso Reyes said the company still had work to do to rehabilitate the village.

"There is still a lot of things to be done to restore the health of the people," Reyes said in a phone interview.

The company should also compensate the villagers for damages, he said.

One resident lamented how the village was now being referred to as "toxic village" by "outsiders."

We appreciate the cleanup operations, but the damage has been done. All our lives, produce and our livestock bear the toxic stigma," Ricardo Roldan, a village councilman, said over the phone.

"It will take a long time before it is erased from the mind of the public," he said. —Sofia T. Mallari Jr., Inquirer South Luzon bureau

United Auctioneers, Inc.

INSPECTION DATES: Oct. 22, 23 & 24, 2006
INSPECTION & REGISTRATION STARTS ON SUNDAY!!!

"THE BEST AUCTION IN SUBIC BAY!"

"NO MINIMUM PRICE" 3-DAY PUBLIC AUCTION

AUCTION DATES: OCTOBER 25, 26 & 27, 2006

SALE STARTS AT 8:30 A.M. DAILY

CATERPILLAR D5H

BLDG. 1035 ARGONAUT HIGHWAY, TEL. NOS. (047) 252-1128 * 252-1165 TO 68 * (02) 920-0818
SUBIC BAY FREEPORT, PHILIPPINES (02) 751-5270 * CEL NOS. 0917) 7262824 * 0917) 8187808
FAX NO.: (047) 252-3569 E-MAIL: uasubic@pacific.net.ph * WEBSITE: www.uasubic.com.ph

ARE YOU SUFFERING FROM ANY OF THESE SYMPTOMS?

- Pain in calf muscles · Cramping or fatigue in the legs and buttocks · Abnormal skin color · Rest pain · Coldness
- Intermittent Claudication *(Pain in one or both legs while walking. Primarily affecting the calves, that does not go away with continued walking and is relieved only by rest)*

You might be suffering from Peripheral Arterial Disease [PAD]. If left untreated these may lead to leg amputation, stroke and heart attack.

Consult your Doctor about "PAD" NOW!!!!

WHAT IS PERIPHERAL ARTERIAL DISEASE?

- Peripheral Arterial Disease is a problem with blood flow in the arteries, which causes arteries to become blocked. Build-up of fatty deposits is the most common cause of blocked arteries. Because of the fatty deposits, the artery may become so narrow that it cannot deliver enough blood containing oxygen to the legs and other parts of the body.

Call the i-PAD Hotline Now!!!

GMA/Metro Manila: 811-(4)(PAD)(3)

Provincial: 1-800-1888-(4)(PAD)(3)

Note: The i-PAD Hotline is only accessible from Mondays to Fridays, 8 to 5 pm.

Are you at Risk of PAD?

(Peripheral Arterial Disease)

i PAD

(Improve Peripheral Arterial Disease)

OTSUKA (PHILIPPINES) PHARMACEUTICAL, INC.

Managing thrombosis and more...

Know more about PAD by visiting our i-PAD Awareness Club website:

www.otsuka.com.ph

OTSUKA (PHILS.) PHARMACEUTICAL, INC.

SPORTS

More Sports stories on A29 to A32

Welcoat keeps SMB in losers' row

By Jun Nisperos

27 SEEMS MATURITY HAS COME TOO FAR... to be the Welcoat Dragons.

After upstaging the Coca-Cola Tigers last week, the youngest franchise in the league this time stunned the San Miguel Beermen, 96-86, in the Talk 'N Text PBA Philippine Cup at the Araneta Coliseum.

Jun Yanglay and Denver Lopez spewed fire from long range and the Dragons held their ground in the face of a stifling full-court pressure applied by the Beermen in the dying minutes to clinch their second win in four games.

Lopez fired seven of his 15 points in the fourth quarter while Yanglay finished with 14 points, including back-to-back three-pointers that widened the gap, 90-80, and a pair of free throws that doomed the Beermen on their third straight defeat.

"There was actually no pressure on us," said Welcoat coach Leo Austria. "The game plan was to play our usual game and see what happens. Fortunately, we saw an opening and pounced on it."

The opportunity came for the Dragons when the Beermen relaxed after Gabby Espinas had made it 88-77 with a scoring lay-up with 3:04 left.

Lopez and Yanglay then nailed triples in succession even as the Beermen were on a scoring drought that lasted more than four minutes.

The Beermen recovered their bearings as Francis Adriano and LA Tenorio hurled two consecutive triples.

But the Dragons wisely ran out the clock, with playmaker Jeoffrie Baguion coming up with a couple of excellent plays to settle the outcome for good.

The Beermen continued to miss Danny Seigle and Jimmy Mariscal. Seigle is recuperating from back spasms while Mariscal's ankle still has to heal after suffering two months ago.

With Brandon Cortez also sidelined by an injury, coach Boyet was forced to field in Wesley Gonzales, Chris Calaguio and Adriano for extended minutes.

The Beermen were actually in control three-fourths of the way after opening the game with a 9-0 run.Gerhard Lopez, whom San Miguel released before the season started, caught fire.

The scores:

Final Game

WELCOAT 96.– Yanglay 15, Lopez 15, Wainwright 12, Reed 14, Cabilis 11, Baguion 6, Seigle 5, Lee 4, Nebrida 2, Sta. Maria 2 (Rem 0).

SAN MIGUEL 86.– Calaguio 17, Espinas 15, Adriano 12, Tenorio 10, Bonifacio 8, Pena 8, Fuentes 5, Gonzales 4, Wilson 4, Hong 3, Reyes 1.

Quarters: 22-24, 46-48, 72-71, 96-86.

Asian Ladies golf fires off tomorrow

BACOLOD CITY—TWENTY-FIVE TEAMS, LED by last year's runners-up Manila Southwoods Masters, will see action in the fourth Camp John Hay Asian Ladies Team Championship starting tomorrow at the short but tough Camp John Hay Golf Club here.

The official practice session is set today with the team captains' meeting scheduled at 5 p.m. Tournament director and club manager Aric Ordoñez said he will preside over the session at the main function room of the host club.

The par-69 course, redesigned by Jack Nicklaus' Golden Bear International, is noted for its lightning-fast greens and plus two-lined undulating fairways that will surely test the skills of the record field of more than 100 players.

"The ladies should read the greens carefully," said Ordoñez. "That's the key to scoring well here."

Slated as committed handicaps, Southwoods Masters, Tagaytay Highlands 1, Camp John Hay 1 and Camp Aguinaldo-Sampaguita are the top contenders for the Group I title. Mark Flash, last year's champion, opted not to vie in the tournament organized by the golf club of Zobel's boy.

The sponsors are Body Project, CJH Inn Co, CJH Manor Hotel, Club Leisure Management Inc., Federal Management and Maintenance Inc., Le Chef at the Manor, Pila, Asiagen Premium, Wilson Sports, Golden Nutritious Food Corp., TAG Sales Inc., Palm Garden, Eastwater, Goldrice Inc., and Mode's Restaurant.

Garma downs Antonio for lead

INTERNATIONAL MASTER (IM) EDUARDO GARMA outplayed compatriot Grandmaster Joey Antonio to seize the sole lead with a perfect 5 points in the 2nd National Active Chess Open Tournament.

Garma, a former chess Olympian and coach of the La Salle Green Hills team, overcame off with defending champion GM Eugene Torre, one of eight players forced to lay down his sack with 4.5 points each.

Sharing second with Torre after their round of the tournament's 11 rounds are GM Nelson Mariano II, IM Darwin Laylo, Ronald Bancoro and Richard Bitoon, FM Ferdie Dungaran, National Masters Oliver Barbosa and Roland Salle, Joey Hubla.

The unbeaten Hubla earned his stable deluxe to GM Bernardo Gonzales after his barely tackle phone ring, in violation of tournament rules. Bitoo forfeited the match.

Antonio was ousted at 4 points and fell into a tie for 10th place with fourth seed IM Ronald Dalmo and FM Vic Bonbon in the tournament being held at the Eva Antonio Atrium of Technology and Humanities.

HOSPITAL HEALTHCARE PRODUCTS

Caring for you in Every Way!

MC™ McBride FAMILY

The One You Trust!

Visit Our Showroom at the 2nd floor, Mercury Drug Gonzalez 3 Makati City

Exclusively Distributed by:

medical center trading corporation

mercury drug

Lowest year-round airfares for every Juan.

Book early, pay less. CEBU PACIFIC AIR.COM

Manila – Kuala Lumpur (Start Sale Date, now destination)	P1,499**
Cebu – Bacolod (Start Sale Date, now destination)	P99**
Manila – Laoag (Start Sale Date, now destination)	P568**
Manila – Cagayan (now destination)	P868**
Manila – Hong Kong	P1,999**
Cebu – Hong Kong (now destination)	P2,499**
Davao – Hong Kong (now destination)	P2,999**

CEBU PACIFIC

Call (02) 70-20-888

Aplus METRO
Lito Ener G. Dipasupil
Text or post feedback: inquirer text <redacted> (Globe) or 333 (Smart) E-mail: jo_metro@inquirer.com.ph

ANYUNSUAL but socially relevant name for a restaurant and KTV bar found on Kalayaan Street in Quezon City. JOEY AGUYAM

Hospital linked to baby deaths to talk to moms

By Edson C. Tandoc Jr.

THE MOTHERS OF THE SEVEN BABIES who had died of neonatal sepsis, a bacterial infection, at the Dr. Head Medical Center in Pasig City have yet to get in touch with hospital officials.

Hospital chief Rizalino Go, however, said they would visit the parents as part of their own investigation of the incident.

"We will visit and talk to the mothers," Go told the hotpress. days after he had issued an apology to the parents, though he maintained that the hospital did everything to protect the newly born babies.

Group complaint

Some of the mothers had blamed the hospital for the deaths of their children. One of them, 25-year-old Analiza de la Cruz, told the hotpress she was thinking of filing charges against the hospital and that she was trying to get in touch with the other mothers for the possible filing of a group complaint.

Hospital records showed that out of the 20 babies born at the hospital on Dec. 4, at least 12 babies had developed neonatal sepsis or an infection in the blood.

Six of the babies died on Oct. 6 while De la Cruz's daughter, Alliyana, died on Oct. 7, hospital doctors told Health Secretary Francisco Duque III.

Hospital officials said machines at the hospital had been difficult that day as water lines, damaged by Typhoon "Milenyo" days ago, had not been reconnected.

Binay asks CA's help in fight vs Palace

IT'S PARTY TIME!
Celebrate with Ramon Magsaysay Awardee, Gawad Kalinga
and its partners at the
KALINGA ILONGGEN
Masquerade Ball
A formal dinner dance at Sarmiento de La Salle Bacolod City
7:00 pm 21 October 2006
Satisfy the gourmand in you with Manila's Iron Chefs
Tern Arzaoma of Uno *Bobby Goco of Gyma*
Gatia Feroz of Cibo & Pepato *Jessie Sincioco of Le Soufflé*
While listening to the elegant music of world-renowned pianist
Chris Medina
Burn off those calories from the sumptuous dinner by dancing the night away!
What better way to support
KALINGA ILONGGEN
in its bid to alleviate poverty in Negros
DON'T MISS THIS ONCE IN A lifetime event
Major sponsor:
ang lakas mo sa Globe
DYRL-Radio Filipino • RMN - I Fm • MOR 101.9 FM
Crossover 89.1 • DYWB - Bombo Radyo
Thom's Catering • Make Sense Nurses • HRIANO
(Contact person: Velvet - 0919 402 3939 / 924 420 3939)

By Tarra P. Quismundo

EMERGENCY ACTION BEGINS: BE IN SET MODE: A temporary restraining order issued by Makati Regional Trial Court Judge Elmo Alameda has enabled the Office of the Ombudsman to begin its investigation into the alleged ghost employees scandal involving Makati City Hall officials and employees.

Alameda issued the TRO on Friday, October 13, after Binay's lawyers filed a petition for prohibition and injunction against the Ombudsman.

The TRO prevents the Ombudsman from implementing its order suspending Binay and six other officials of the city government.

Binay's lawyers argued that the Ombudsman has no jurisdiction over the case because the complaint was filed only after the May 14 elections.

The Ombudsman's order suspending Binay and the others was issued on September 25.

Binay's camp has been claiming that the case was filed by administration allies to prevent him from running for president in 2010.

Binay's petition, which sought the immediate issuance of a temporary restraining order, was filed on Friday.

"The haste to do all of these ... demonstrates a grand design to ignore the right of the petitioner and his co-respondents to counter-control due process," the motion said.

The complaint against Binay, Vice Mayor Ernesto Mercado and 16 Makati councilors was filed by the mayor's political rival, Robert Brillantes, in August.

It has since been submitted by the DILG to Ombudsman Simeon Marcelo for evaluation. Should the latter move out sanctions against Binay and his cohorts, these would be implemented by the DILG.

For the past days, Binay's camp has been taking security measures to prevent him and other city officials from being thrown out of Makati City Hall should the anticipated suspension order be issued.

The mayor had denied Brillantes's allegations, saying that the alleged ghost employees in the complaint were all "made bodies" at City Hall.

LOVABLE: Miss Beyoncé is always celebrates her birthday with a special party, courtesy of the agencies monitoring her growth.

RP's six billionth baby now a grown-up 7-year-old

By DJ Yap

WHEN YOUR TREND DAUGHTER LORREE Mae was born seven years ago, the economic couple had unsuspecting about her future.

Rodolfo had no stable job, and Lorelei was a stay-at-home mom. Believing their prospects were not good, they despaired that they would not be able to give her the life she deserved.

What they didn't know was that Lorree Mae's arrival at exactly 12:12 a.m. on Dec. 12, 1999 signaled just the first of many good things to come.

The little girl was chosen by the Population Commission, the Council for the Welfare of Children and the United Nations Population Fund, as the Philippines representative for the six billionth baby, a symbolic way of marking the global population milestone.

Her selection came with lots of fanfare and blessings for the family, starting with a reward provided for Rodolfo as an unknown marine soldier at Camp Aguinaldo. Marcelo and Sheena also where Lorree Mae was born.

Cash gift

More than that, the proud parents received a P50,000 cash gift. It was which they set aside a certain amount to cover Lorree Mae's educational expenses.

The Guevarra family was also the recipient of services from the health center, the family planning clinic and Pabello Hospital.

And every Dec. 12, Lorree Mae gets a special birthday bash, courtesy of the humanitarian institution that promised development.

Last Thursday, she celebrated her seventh birthday with her parents, sisters, friends and neighbors with a party complete with balloons, a birthday cake, toys, gifts and games.

The party was held at the CNC offices in Quezon City and organized by CWC and Popcom.

Lorree Mae has grown up to be a smart and pretty girl. She was an honor student in kindergarten, and is doing well in her class as a Grade 1 pupil, said Rodolfo.

"She finds it necessary to ask lessons, and remembers them well. Lorree have a hard time running her whenever she works for help in her assignments," he added.

The girl said in the day whenever the spotlight was focused on her every time her birthday came around, according to her father. But today, she has become more confident and at ease with people other than her parents and sisters Mark Wes, 14, and Lorelei, 11.

Future teacher or nurse

This early Lorree Mae already has an idea of what she wants to be when she grows up. "I want to be a nurse or a teacher," she told the lensmen. "She probably got the idea from visiting me at work in the hospital. She always reminds me that I should be one of the nurses in Sabella," Rodolfo said.

The proud father said Lorree Mae already understands a little of what being the country's six billionth baby means. "From the start, I explained to her how or why she was chosen, and I think she understands," he said.

Lorelei said she was very happy and proud upon learning of her daughter's selection as the six billionth baby. Since she gave birth to Lorree Mae, she blessings have poured on their family, she added.

But Rodolfo is also aware of the responsibility that Lorree Mae has been given. "In a way, she could be considered the 'best' born of her generation, so she has to be a model for other children her age," he said.

A POPULAR LEARNING EVENT BY OPTIMUS INNOVATIONS, INC.
Lessons from the CEO Who Created Millionaires
☑Career Success
☑Organizational Competitiveness
☑Effective Leadership
Michael G. Malaghan
A legend in the field of sales
Author of "Making Millions In Direct Sales"
Nov. 13, 16 & 17, 2006
3:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.
Francisco Santiago Hall, Eastwick PCI Bank Tower 1
H. V. de la Costa St. cor. Makati Ave., Makati City
MAKING MILLIONS IN DIRECT SALES
Malaghan started his career in 1951 as a book salesman. He finished his career 41 years later as president of International Horizons (Licensee of The Walt Disney Company) leading five direct-sales organizations spread across Hong Kong, Taiwan, and Japan. In 1990, he started an incredible streak of increased sales every year for 11 consecutive years. After being promoted to president, he raised sales in Japan from $60M to $1.0M in 7 years as part of the quarter billion dollar empire he retired from only a few years ago. In the process, he created millionaires from the ranks of his sales managers.
JOIN and PARTICIPATE in these INTERACTIVE seminars conducted in the same transparent manner he used to test track leadership development in the company which resulted in an increase in sales from field in a decade.
Sponsored by companies who care for people at work
Nov. 13 (Mon) - Fin. Sr. Manager Get Right Your Respect Me Because "Top Anyone Else Could Do To Succeed In Their Own Domain Of Both A Business
Nov. 16 (Thurs) - 10 Bill Mistakes By Company Made And What We Learned From Them ... So You Won't Make The Same Ones!
Nov. 17 (Fri) - The Most Lessons I Learned From Ten Leaders Whom I Reported To At Mid-Reported To Be
OPTIMUS

METROBRIEFS

All accounted for

THE LAST of the last fugitives who broke out of the Northern Police District (NPD) intelligence unit in Caloocan City last month was finally rearrested yesterday. Genesis Agustin was rearrested after a police manhunt in Bataan, according to Chief Supt. Leopoldo Bataoil, NPD director. The five escapees overcame a number of Bataoil's investigators. They escaped out of detention on Sept. 11 by grounding investigators on their bodies and disfigured of the intention of their cell.

DJ Yap

Killed for resisting

ALEGEDLY were shot to death by robbers after they refused to give up their bags in Tondo, Manila Police District (MPD) officials said. Yesterday. Police identified the victim as Ivan Dampios, of Carlos Muñoz Street in Tondo. Her 31-year-old son, Marlon, was also shot when he tried to help her and had to be taken to the hospital for treatment. Investigators questioned by the

Manila Police District (MPD) identified the victim, a fruit vendor, was victim was found at around 8:30 a.m. when they were [illegible]

Miguel C. Bello

DID YOU KNOW

FOUNDED on Dec. 16, 1937, Dominica Limsiaco-Ki Co. Inc. is the first Asian firm to [illegible] Stock. It was started by Lim Tua Co—then a 26-year-old immigrant from Amoy, China—in Binondo to produce Hopia Mongo. Today, the company is run by Lim Tua Co's grandson Tatsheng, a multi-level marketing [illegible] from Chinese herbs. The secret formula of the drink had been with Lim Tua Co's family for five generations. The distillery started producing western style liquors in 1930 before it was taken by Japanese in 1939.

Carl J. Bondoc, Inquirer Research

Iraq gov't vows action to deal with violence

BAGHDAD—[BAQT. 0 BYTE]—DOMINATED: Interior Ministry, whose police forces have been accused of complicity in sectarian attacks, has fired 3,000 employees accused of corruption or rights abuses and will change top commanders, a spokesperson said.

"Thousands have died this year in the cycle of killings between Shiite and Sunni death squads. At least 22 were killed Saturday, mainly in sectarian attacks.

Authorities also said they discovered the bullet-ridden bodies of 17 Shiite construction workers in an orchard outside Baghdad, kidnapped and/or tortured to death by suspected insurgents or militants from Sunni Arab-held areas.

The decapitated corpses were found Friday outside the city of Dahabiyah, 45 miles north of Baghdad, along with four other unknown victims, also beheaded.

The killings of the workers came after the kidnapping Wednesday of three Sunni Arabs in Dahabiyah by a Shiite militia based in Sadat, police said. The three were killed and their bodies burned. After the discovery of the bodies late Friday and early Saturday, Sunni families living near Sadat were starting to flee their homes, fearing Shiite retaliation.

Amid the growing tensions between Sunni Arabs and Shiites, Saudi monarch King Abdullah met Saturday with prominent Iraqi clerics from both sects in the Islamic holy city of Mecca and urged them to work an end to the violence to allow the two sides to reconcile.

"My brothers, we need now patience, tolerance and quiet to get to know each other," the king told them.

Spokesperson Abdul Karim Khalaf said the Interior Ministry shake-up would ensure stronger **action to stop the violence.**

"We are working on reshuffling the ministry's chief posts like [the leaders of the] police commandos and public order forces, as well as some undercover units," he told The Associated Press.

He said most of the 3,000 employees who had been removed since May were suspected of corruption or human rights violations, but did not specify whether they were involved in militia activities. Up to 600 of them will face prosecution, he said.

The Shiite-led national police force, controlled by the Interior Ministry, is widely accused of being infiltrated by Shiite militias blamed in slayings of Sunni Arabs. Critics say Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki has been reluctant to move against the militias since many are linked to parties in his coalition. AP

WorldBriefs

Over 200 ill after gas leak

BAYSU, INDIA—About 200 people were admitted to hospitals with severe breathing problems after an ammonia gas leak from an industrial plant near Bayasu in central India, officials said on Sunday. The accident occurred late on Saturday in Bayasu district, which has adjacent to Bhopal where more than 3,000 people died in December 1984 after gas leaked from an Union Carbide pesticide plant into the city's atmosphere. "People are complaining of severe breathing problems and many are complaining of itching in their eyes," Arun Kumar Bhatt, Bayasu's district commissioner, told Reuters by phone on Sunday. Authorities in Madhya Pradesh trying to find out whether the leaked gas was ammonia or chlorine. Reuters

Italian journalist missing

ROME—An Italian freelance photojournalist missing in Afghanistan is believed to have been kidnapped, Italy's foreign ministry said AFP Tuesday. "All the indications show that it is a kidnapping and we are treating it as such," the ministry's press office said. Rita Klein have said in Kabul on Saturday that the photographer had been out of contact for several days, but could not confirm reports of a kidnapping. The Italian journalist, Gabriele Torsello, is based in London. He "has been out of contact for the last two to three days," International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) spokesperson Major Dominic Whyte told AFP in Kabul. "The photographer was "out of contact with us," Whyte said. AFP

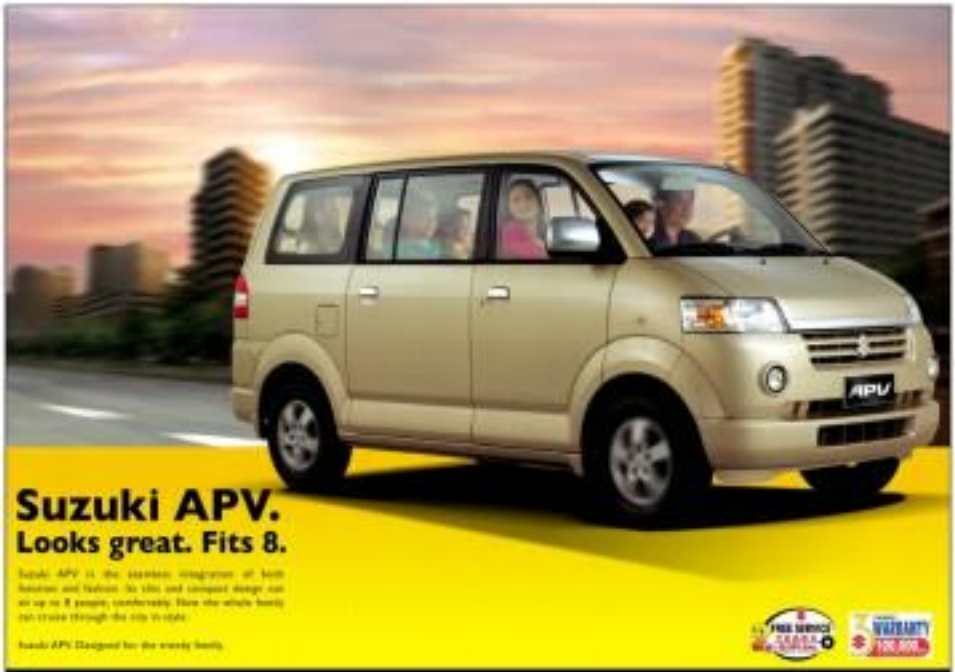
Swedish minister quits

STOCKHOLM—Trade Minister Mona Sahlin resigned Saturday amid mounting allegations of tax evasion, just eight days after taking office with Sweden's new center-right government. Prime Minister Fredrik Reinfeldt insisted the resignation would not affect the stability of his four-party coalition, which took office on Oct. 6, ending 12 years of Social Democratic rule. "The fact that she cannot carry on and we have agreed that she should resign," Reinfeldt told public broadcaster Sweden Radio. Sahlin, 40, came under intense pressure this week after Swedish media revealed she had hired a nanny in the 1990s without reporting it in tax authorities and paying the required social security taxes. AP

Warner Bros. Consumer Products actively and aggressively protects its official licensee partners with a worldwide team of lawyers and investigators instructed to seek out and report piracy. Anyone caught manufacturing, importing, distributing and/or selling unauthorized products or using our characters in any unauthorized manner will be prosecuted to the full extent of the law.

For inquiries regarding use of the cartoon characters in the Philippines, please contact our Licensing Agent:

Global Brands Group – Philippines
Unit 1306, 13th Floor, Taipan Place,
F. Ortigas Jr. Road, Ortigas Center, Pasig City 1605.
Philippines
Tel: 632 6336909/6330944
Fax: 632 6337873



The WORLD

Lilac Lorenzo B. Gueco

Israel calls for tough UN action on Iran

JERUSALEM—ISRAELI AMBASSADOR TO THE United Nations Sunday urged the Security Council to take tough measures against "demented" Iran for its nuclear program in the wake of North Korea's declared atomic test.

"The international community should learn the lessons of what occurred in North Korea," Dmitry Gillerman told news outlets. "North Korea was only the previous, but will be the former film, which, if no one takes serious action, will be projected throughout the whole world."

Gillerman called for "much harsher" sanctions to be imposed on a dictatorial Iranian regime that seeks to destroy a UN member state (Israel), and totally denies the Holocaust, while preparing to perpetrate a second Holocaust." But, "I do not anticipate severe significant and harsh sanctions against Iran than those being considered for North Korea."

Opening the weekly cabinet meeting in Jerusalem, Prime Minister Ehud Olmert said the situation in Iran and North Korea would dictate how he will deal with Syria, which is helping Tehran build its first atomic power plant at Bushehr.

"The Iranian threat and the developments in the nuclear issue in North Korea will influence my decisions on the issues of our table," Olmert said.

On Tuesday Israel said if feared North Korea could transfer nuclear technology to Iran, after Pyongyang announced it had carried out its first nuclear test.

Israeli leaders called for the North Korean test to serve as a wake up call to the international community on the risks of nuclear proliferation and prompt a zero-tolerance policy with Tehran.

The Islamic republic says its nuclear program is for peaceful purposes but the West fears it is a cover for obtaining atomic weapons. AFP

We're not intimidated—Iran

TEHRAN—IRANIAN MAJOR BY Western countries to stop sanctions on Iran over its controversial nuclear program were "psychological warfare," the country's Foreign Ministry spokesperson said Saturday.

Mohammad Ali Hosseini said Iran was not intimidated by threats to impose sanctions and repeated his country's pledge to continue pursuing its nuclear program, according to Iran's state-run television on a report posted on its English website.

Hosseini "ruled out Western threats of sanctions against Iran as above psychological warfare," the web site reported.

Repeated attempts by the UN Security Council's five permanent members and Germany to entice Iran into negotiations on its nuclear program failed earlier this month over Tehran's refusal to suspend uranium enrichment.

The six nations have agreed to start working on UN sanctions against Iran next week, diplomats and officials have said, but they still favor to bridge differences on what the sanctions should be.

Germany's Foreign Minister Frank-Walter Steinmeier on Saturday did not provide details about possible sanctions but said that a package of incentives aimed at persuading Iran to halt restrictions was still being offered.

Iran said it would not suspend uranium enrichment as a precondition to negotiations about its nuclear program.

The United States and some of its allies claim Tehran is secretly developing nuclear weapons, but Iran insists its program is solely for generating electricity. AP

Thaksin can return, says new Thai PM

BANGKOK—ACTING PRIME MINister Thaksin Shinawatra can return to Thailand if he wants, but must not meddle in politics once he does, the country's new leader said.

Thaksin was in New York for the UN General Assembly when military leaders seized power. He has not returned to Thailand since the Sept. 19 coup, opting to stay in London.

Interim Prime Minister Surayud Chulanont told reporters into Saturday he had spoken with Thaksin, but did not give the date of their conversation. He said authorities would have to act when would be the right time for Thaksin to return.

"If he wants to come back, that's his right, but I have to talk to the other sides involved," Surayud said. "What's most important is to see if the situation in the country has eased and if it's appropriate for him to come back."

Coup leaders have said the military intervened and seized power last month because intelligence showed the likelihood of bloodshed between Thaksin supporters and opponents on the right.

The Council for National Security—as the coup leaders are called—will provide information in Surayud about internal security and when Thaksin can return, said Chalit Pholphanich, the air force commander and one of the coup's leaders.

Defense Minister Gen. Boonsrang Noimkid said Thaksin will have to wait until after martial law is lifted before returning to Thailand, local television ITV reported.

"It's up to Thaksin to see if it's appropriate for him to come back," Boonsrang told reporters Sunday, but he stated concern that Thaksin's return could increase political tension and lead to violence.

Boonsrang said last week that martial law, imposed after the coup, should remain in place for at least another month.

Despite Thaksin's popularity with the poor, he was almost universally opposed by the country's elite, who accused him of widespread corruption and abuse of power. Massive anti-Thaksin rallies were staged in Bangkok for several months earlier this year.

Surayud, who was appointed interim prime minister on Oct. 1, made his first official trip abroad to Laos on Saturday, and went to Cambodia on Sunday. He is scheduled to visit Malaysia this week. AP

PEACE OFFERING. 'Nature Says Dan, a monk from Burma, washes the face of a Buddhist statue during South Korean Buddhists' special devotional service praying for peace and reunification of the Korean peninsula, near the demilitarized zone separating the two Koreas.

ONE FIXED RATE.
ONE FIXED MONTHLY.
ONE HOME LOAN.

FIXED
for up to 25 years.
Only from PSBank.

PSBank

T.G.I.F

PSBank Home LOAN

Rest assure of mind with a fixed monthly when you buy your home today through PSBank Home Loan. Enjoy a fixed interest rate of 12.5% for a 25-year loan term. A first in Philippine Banking!

Affordable fixed interest rates are also available for 5, 10 and 20-year loan terms.

Apply now at any PSBank branch nationwide. And if you don't get results in five days or less, we'll give you 1% off your first year's interest rate. Guaranteed.

US population to hit 300 million this week

WASHINGTON—THE US POPULation will hit the historic milestone of 300 million this week but no one can say who or where the person who tips the scale will be on that day.

According to the US Census Bureau, the 300th million resident will clock in on Tuesday at about 7:46 a.m. (1146 GMT) based on an algorithm that takes into account birth rates, death rates and rates of International migration.

The Census Bureau estimates that an American is born every seven seconds, one dies every 13 seconds and a migrant comes into the country every 31 seconds. The result is a net increase in the total population of one person every 11 seconds.

A spokesperson for the Census Bureau said that with that formula in mind, it is near impossible to determine whether the 300th million resident will be a newborn, an immigrant coming across the border or someone flying into the United States.

"It would be very difficult to say who the 300th million person is just because of the number of people that move in and out of the country and also because of the range of births that take place," Stephen Buckner told AFP.

He said that no special celebrations were planned for Tuesday's milestone, which makes the United States the third most populous country in the world after China and India and which comes almost 10 years after the 200 million benchmark was reached on Nov. 20, 1967.

At that time Lyndon B. Johnson was president, color television was the state-of-the-society was prosperity and the Vietnam War.

Today's American under President George W. Bush is said about 46th and is engaged in wars on two fronts—Afghanistan and Iraq.

Illegal immigration, mainly from Latin America, is somewhere also a hot-button issue being played up in upcoming legislative elections in November.

According to the Census Bureau, 14 percent of the current 111 people, about 44 Hispanic, compared to four percent in 1960, and it is projected that 25 percent of the population will be Hispanic in 2050.

It is also expected that in the next 50 years there will be more Hispanic births in the United States than immigrants.

William Frey, a demographer at the Brookings Institution in Washington and a professor at the University of Michigan, said that changing ethnic makeup of the United States and the new immigrants should be welcomed, rather than scorned, as they represent the future of the country.

"What the new population growth represents is a return to our immigrant past," he said. AFP

FATF removes Burma from money launder list

WASHINGTON—AN INTERNAtional watchdog to fight money laundering and terrorism funding removed Burma (Myanmar) from its list of countries refusing to cooperate, the Financial Action Task Force said Friday.

"Myanmar has made good progress in implementing its anti-money laundering system," Frank Hamilton, president of the world's money policing agency, FATF, told a press conference at the close of the organization's 16th session here.

Since 2006, he said, 23 nations, the agency has found, or "noncooperative countries and territories" have "made significant progress" and have been taken off the list.

But, Hamilton called the fight against money laundering for terrorism and other "an ongoing battle ... no-fast pound for no-cooperative countries" He said that even as cooperative countries close loopholes, such as by using SWIFT enough standards, criminals come up with more ways to limit the system. "and we have to be more effective at closing them off." The SWIFT is an international body that develops and promotes policies to combat money laundering and terrorist financing.

The session of the task force, attended by 33 member countries, included for the first time South Korea as its observer.

South Korea's rival North Korea has been accused of counterfeiting US currency by the Washington, which has vowed to stopped by stepping with sanctions.

The task force issued two major reports on new payment technologies and what the FATF calls "corporate vehicles." The SWIFT signalled that it is moving on payment systems that could help new payment technologies to launder money and finance terrorism. AFP

WHAT'S INSIDE

■ Tigers ride high on drama to book World Series slot /A30

SPORTS

Editor Teddyboy S. Molondres

■ Roberto Duran enshrined in Hall of Fame /A30

Miñoza, Pagunsan finish strong; Goosen at it again

SAWA, CHINA—FRANKIE MIÑOZA and Artie Pagunsan underscored their status as the Philippines' top two golfers with a strong windup in the Volkswagen Masters China tournament won again by South African star Retief Goosen on Sunday.

Miñoza, taking a break from his Japan Tour schedule, closed with a three-under-par 69 to finish in solo eighth place at 279.

Pagunsan, in his rookie season as a pro after a big amateur career, rallied with his best round of 68 for a 279 total and sole 6th ninth with four others.

After starting with a 71, Miñoza also

MINOZA. Blows under-par 2 strokes

lit caused up the leaderboard with rounds of 69-67, she turned in rises of 36-33 Sunday.

Pagunsan, who really bustled the Asian Tour qualifying last February, had earlier scores of 72-69-70. He executed a final-round charge by gunning down eight birdies only to fix drawed down by a couple of double bogeys to a 16-34 card.

Tony Lascuña, the last Filipino after 54 holes at seventh, faded to a 73 and finished in a tie-way tie for 10th at 281.

Davidi Thomlin finished at 283 and Jovino Dalusiano at 290.

Goosen, the world No. 7, closed with a 71 and finished with an impressive 21-under-par 267 total at Mission Hills Golf Club for his 20th career victory and first this year.

New Zealand's 2005 US Open champ Michael Campbell was runner-up for the second straight time after a 68 (279). Scotsman Simon Dyson came in third, four behind the champion, after a 68.

Thailand's Prayad Marksaeng fired a 64 and surged into a share of fourth with Schmidt Yuto Al.

"It's a great feeling to defend a title," said Goosen, who picked up $167,550. AFP

GREAT DEALS OF QUALITY

AUTOWIDE

TRUCKS, PASSENGER VANS & SUVs

BIG PRICE CUT

Isuzu 10W Dumptruck

Oct. 16 to 31, 2006

Sale Starts 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

SALE SITE

Lot 2 West Highway Subic Gateway, Subic Bay Freeport Zone, Tel. no. (047) 252-4328

GUILLERMO MOTORS INC., CORP 467 Arroyo-Rodriguez Ave., Sampaloc, Pulong Cruz

Tel. no. 045 772 Fax no. 455 1370

Suico halts Thai, captures OPBF title

By Sabres Lagumbay
Contributor

WORLD-RANKED Randy Suico bagged the Oriental/Pacific Boxing Federation (OPBF) lightweight crown with a fourth-round technical knockout over Thailand's Pinggorth Chowratana Saturday night at the Mandaluyong City Sports and Cultural Complex.

The end came in 2 minutes 0 seconds of the fourth round after Chowratana went down for the second time following big uppercuts by the fourth-ranking Suico.

Referee Jesse Abalos Toribio declared Suico the winner after the second knockdown. Dr. Jose Guadalupe Asuncion closed a big cut on Chowratana's face in the hospital.

It was the 25th win (22 by KO) against three losses for Suico, who is ranked No. 9 by the World Boxing Council and No. 15 by the World Boxing Association.

"I'll give him maybe three more fights, then another possible crack at a world title," said manager Joe Kalaveri of Suico, who lost to WBO lightweight champ Juan Diaz several months ago.

In the chief support, 30-year-flyweight champ Glen Tomawa came back strong to stop the somewhat unbeaten Jessie Arroyo Tibayan in the seventh round.

Mercado, who was leading slightly on two judges' scorecard before the stoppage, went down twice in the ninth following big jabs by Sequera.

Other results Ayad Sairo by KO (1) over no Pedri; Brendel Zaberia by KO (3) over Jesse Abang; Reggie Babiak by TKO (1) over Mark de Asis; Gadies Gerbo by KO over Rob Medalleza and Jared Pandelay TKO (2) over Ismael Ugado.

BODY KITS & MORE

MIGGYBOY CAR ACCESSORIES

FORTUNER INNOVA VIOS

FRONT, REAR & SIDE SKIRTS FRONT GRILLE BODY CLADDING FENDER FLARE WEATHER GUARD HOOD PROTECTOR SPOILER WINDOW VISOR MUD FLAP CHROME LIP CHROME GARNISH TAIL LIGHTS SIDE WINDOW WITH LED SILL PLATE DOOR VISORS & MORE

Tel. Nos. 636-1668 / 895-8297 Mobile: 0917-8988888

The New Ford Escape NBX Limited Edition

You'll fall in love with the performance of the 2.3L engine. But everyone else will be smitten by the dual-tone exterior, chic headlamps, 16-inch alloy wheels and sporty two-tone leather interior. A combination of looks and substance that a new love will enjoy.

PETRON XTRA UNLEADED

Go for the Xtra miles.

1114 kms

The record has been broken.

1400* KM

It's time you set your own record.

Petron

Big Deb, Daquis score shocker

By Marong B. Castillo

CABANOA, CASTE—RECHEL MABANG can have fifty that practically did not matter a second look, came charging back from dead last under veteran Marcelino Llagan to win the 2006 Klub Inos Asian Derby in sensational style yesterday.

Set off as the far outlit choice in the eight-horse field, Big Deb shot through a small hole in the final straight to prevail by four lengths over second choice Fairy Queen and highlight the day's dominance by the imports.

Despite claiming it was a victory in his only ride for the day with Big Deb's nomination as the four 3-year-old in the land shooting the huge crowd at the two Lunar Gardens Park here after accruing only 954,133 to solve out of the total pool of P9,113,352.

"I knew that (the would) finish strong. I felt he give me some room in the backstretch," Ilagan told the bygone. "The distance fit her style well and I found that opening in the final turn which spelled the victory."

One of the first products of the lookout Academy, the 40-year-old Ilagan trained home the daughter of Louis Quatorze and Shelby Jan Cool in 2:16minutes and 8 seconds over the punishing 2,000-meter grind to give owner Florentino Cuayo the P1.15-million winner's prize.

Fairy Queen, ridden by Lord Santos, checked in two lengths ahead of Mayberian, another longshot, for the P430,000 runner-up purse, while Hot Mc, the coupled entry of fancied Jun Ilmagal, outspeculated Rodney for Human Eugenio.

Jun Ilmagal, who was partnered by top Australian thoroughbred, did not get the chance to see the race he wanted and he found hard to beat, padding to the hard finishing cavalry in the far turn to finish out of the money.

Hall of Fame enshrines Duran

DURAN

LOS ANGELES—ROBERTO DURAN SPEAK said, "There is only one legend. That's me."

As he was inducted into the World Boxing Hall of Fame Saturday night, there was no one to argue him on that.

"That's right, it's me," he declared through an interpreter minutes before his introduction. "Everybody says it: Sugar Ray Leonard, Thomas Hearns, Marvelous Marvin Hagler, Roberto Duran. Everybody."

Duran, 51, looked little like the man who won four world titles while compiling a 103-16 record with 69 knockouts between 1972-1989.

When he was introduced, he walked into the ballroom carrying a flag of his native Panama, hours just minutes earlier said that his induction was important not only for himself "but for the whole country of Panama and for my parents. all of Panama is going into that Hall of Fame."

Duran was the biggest name of the 13 inductees that included former champions Matthew Saad Muhammad, Julian Jackson and Eddie Perkins, and announcer Ron's Tompkins, and it seemed as if all of the nearly 500 attendees wanted to catch a glimpse, get an autograph or tell of their favorite Duran moment or fight.

That was the case earlier Saturday when, at an autograph session, an estimated 300 people trickled him and waited in line for his signature.

At the swimming club of Duran reborn Gwen Adair's most memorable Duran moment was when Duran famously quit during the eighth round of he second fight with Sugar Ray Leonard.

"I was shocked he said "he was," Adair said.

By using, it was the knockout of Ken Buchanan on June 26, 1972, that gave Duran his first major title, the WBA lightweight crown.

Others thought his decision over Iran Barkley in 1989 that gave Duran the NBC middleweight crown was best.

AP

Tigers ride high on drama to book World Series slot

MAGGLIO Ordonez hits the game winning home run that also ow Placido Polanco (right photo) scores.

DETROIT—MAGGLIO ORDONEZ HIT his second homer of the game with Detroit in the bottom of the ninth, giving the Detroit Tigers a 6-3 victory over the Oakland Athletics on Saturday and sending them to Major League Baseball's World Series for the first time since 1984.

The three-run homer to left completed Detroit's four-game sweep of the Athletics in the American League championship series and earned it a meeting against the New York Mets or St. Louis Cardinals starting next Saturday at home.

After pounding the ninth, he moved to 8E0 over the past 13 seasons, including losing 119 games in 2003, the Tigers turned around their heroines in their first year under manager Jim Leyland.

While the record of 92-70 at Comerica Park is definitive, joined his fans watching from distant downtown buildings. The Tigers celebrated.

Members of the Tigers' bullpen rushed in from left field and nearly bore Ordonez to the plate as fans swirled white towels.

Detroit, 7-0 early, the Tigers earned back score it against Dan Haren when Ordonez hit a solo home run in the sixth inning to get Detroit going.

Then after Craig Monroe and series most valuable player award winner Placido Polanco singled with two outs in the ninth off Huston Street, Ordonez launched his drive over the wall.

In the Tigers celebrated, Leyland walked across the field to Oakland's first base dugout to congratulate the A's. He had spent weeks for 46 slugger Frank Thomas, who went 0 for 13 in the series.

Cardinals calm control

At St. Louis, Jeff Kappen just about did it all for St. Louis, hitting a new home run and pitching a six-hit masterpiece that gave the Cardinals control in the NL champ-

onship series against the suddenly stop greying New York Mets over a 6-0 victory.

Scott Spiezio hit another key triple and the Cardinals dazzled on defense, denying the Mets to take a 2-1 lead in the best-of-seven series. New York but start ing pitcher Steve Trachsel is injury. AP

Emir's son planes in with Asiad torch today

THE TORCH OF THE 15TH Asian Games will arrive in Main in Doha Sunday. Sheik Kuwa, in day as part of the traditional tou torch every that will end in Doha, Qatar, on Dec. 1, official start of the quadrennial competition.

The torch will be carried by His Excellency Sheikh Joan Bin Rashid Al Thani, son of His Highness Sheikh Hamad Bin Khalifa Al Thani, the Emir of Qatar.

The younger Al Thani will plane year 0:30 p.m. at the Hong Againa International airport on board a Qatar Amiri Asiad flight, accompanied by an 80-man entourage.

The arrival ceremony in Manila is scheduled on Wednesday. It will kick off at the Rizal Park and pr ceeded by visits to Mowe Manila.

From Manila, the torch will be flown to Fukuoka, Japan, site of the 1994 Asiad, on Oct. 30.

For 30 days, the torch, shaped like the sword borne of the Arabian steed, Qatar's national animal, will be carried 50,000 kilometers across 1 Countries before returning to Qatar.

PHILIPPINE STAR

SO YOUNG, SO QUICK: TJ Alberto makes a flying finish in Tolosa City, where the national junior champion, riding the KTM 85 SX-Aprilia Pro, overcame a slippery course and the challenge of neural leader Jacob Orbe to win the hosting of the 2006 National Motocross Championship series recently. The Grade 3 student of Xavier School dominated the two races in the 9-and-below class to post an upset victory in the event held at the Tolosa Stadium.

UAAP scribes honor season's top players

PIDE JAVIER AND THE STARS OF the championship Game Tigers will be honored by the UAAP Press Corps in an awards ceremony at 10:30 a.m. today at the Pancake Restaurant. Javelan will receive the coveted Most Valuable Player. Asi David will also be cited as Mr. Dublin, Rylan Rodriguez (Shift-Rider and Jenny Cruz as Defensive Player of the Year for 2007, which showed the Second-Runner Blue Eagle on their best-of-three series for the UAAP crown yesterday. Other top individual performers include Ateneo's All-Asian Player of the Year, Adamson's Most Stone (Scoring Champion), Women's Mvp Tin (Comeback Player), UP's Marvin Cruz (Most Improved), FEU's Jeff Chan (Sportsmanship) and UE's Nancy Antolino (Coverage Player). The late Sandy Tovera Tigers guard-center Javelan will be honored with a Posthumous Award. Apb, a member of last year's UAP championship team, died in a car accident. Most of the honorees after earning two-division wins swimming pool accolades.

Journalists Of Paper

EXPERIENCE THE THRILL

Government Warning: Cigarette sm

Manila Polo Club tops Battle of the Courts elims

By Jong Arcano

MANILA POLO CLUB returned to the Battle of the Courts basketball tournament championship after a stunning three-point shot last year with a scintillating victory in the second eliminations leg yesterday.

Jody Lim, the player-owner of celebrity wear named the team's lastchance in 2005, Triangle took up the cudgels for her squad by teaming up with Sheryl Tiang to in a one-three locline doubles victory that spurred Manila Polo's vengeful ants over Wilo Steele in the final clash several minutes before the end of the regulation time.

Lim and Tiangco overcame Sam on opening-set loss to host Beth Ng and Chrissy Go Tam, 22-16, 11-19, 21-16, before Joy Payne and Lee Ingalzo Reyes swapped the rounds for Manila Polo by downing Genning Chuakwong/Trina Guerrero, 21-18, 21-16, in unanimous fashion.

With the score settled, Manila Polo's team's doubles pair of Su chrissy Cheng and Joseph Tan Jr. put paired their teammates and other supporters in the victory celebration at the Club 634 courts.

As the top winner, Manila Polo clinched the top seeding in one of the three groups during the grand finals where they will be joined by 11 other qualifiers from the previous leg and the last step on Oct. 28-29 at the Las Pilas Recreation Center.

Wilo Steele still made it to the

DO YOU LIKE WHAT YOU SEE?
The BEST hair transplants are meant to be unnoticed!
Before After

GET BACK YOUR HAIR THE PERMANENT WAY
Beverly Hills trained Hair Transplant Surgeon, Dr. Andrew G. Pineda uses the latest technique in hair restoration surgery to give you back a hairline that looks so natural even your barber will not be able to tell it's a transplant.
• Multi-unit grafts • Follicular unit transplant
• Micro-linear hairline grafts • Micrographic tissues
• No maintenance • No bandages • No scars
• Affordable • Some parking up to 3,000 grafts
A 1 session 4 hr. "DOS Hair Cut"
Our goal is to achieve the most natural looking Hair Restoration in ONE session. Call Now!
A. PINEDA MEDICAL CLINICS

Did Bata, our Magician, lose to a trick artist?

BARE EYE

Barrah Trinidad

ALL THE GREAT DOGIANS, crisp and in tie bundles, were there, freshly popped from a black leather luggage, for the whole world to see.

The entire host was being handled by a multi-eyed Elton "Sam" Mesa, pride of the Philippines, who won the $500,000 top prize in the International final in the ball championship, reform in game history.

Bata, the Magician, smiled what would go down as his sweetest convention smile—while scooping up the loose—which would be flashed in front page photos the morning after.

Years Anon, Nevada, tourist-rest site, it was all very cool for Bata and his overjoyed fans both home—weary at its sweetest, reboot.

***

There is a jolly all the money was gone, everything cheap-poured into fists on.

It was easy to say how the $500,000, shorter and there for everybody to admire, endlessly disappeared.

But, as facts would bear it out allow Bata had retained home there was no money not a single cent, after all.

The big dollars were there, all right, but these were all meant for the photo-ops, which deliberately projected IPT as the greatest pool show-outfit.

Bata, besieged by friends and countless others who usually get their post-victory gifts from their idol, tried to play it cool.

He would say it was not unusual for these big prizes to be delayed.

***

Of course, Bata, seemingly unruffled, has every reason to feel a little worried.

Latest word from the IPT says Bata's check has been scheduled for mailing.

This was exactly the same thing we had been hearing since it was first released that Bata did win the grand IPT title but failed to pocket a single cent of the $500,000 top money.

Anyway, now that there was no more high-earning television replay of Bata's victory that could be capitalized by massive publicity, concerned parties have some for mind. His only in worry Bata, but to protect other Filipino players in what threatens to explode as the biggest hoax in the history of world pool.

No one, we've been informed that the Billiards and Snooker Congress of the Philippines, his in jail, is forming an investigative panel who'll unveil rumors/scams with the IPT for the official status of Bata's winning prize—and the troubled organization itself.

While waiting for developments, we discussed around and got exciting tips on the pocket and style of Scott Trudeau, the man behind IPT, who may at legally-banned to have invested to cure for diabetes and cancer.

He also received a concerned recommendation, which we have by share with you.

***

Dear pool fans,

Here, like the other players, get on: promised date for payment.

They got an e-mail from Trudeau asking for patience because his (Trudeau) was supposed to be in negotiations for the sale of IPT to Stanley Ho.

Presumably, success of the sale will produce the money to pay the players.

But no one puts much faith that this would unravel because Trudeau had declared several times before that he had negotiated in selling IPT to several investors, first to a British group allegedly for $750 million, then to Ho.

Main point: IPT held the Reno event but it did not have the $1 million prize money.

In the World Pool Championship, Manchester Sports pays players within two days after taxes are deducted.

Hence, the aliens today to the United States.

If the prize is still not paid by the end of October, we can say goodbye to IPT and Bata's half-million dollars.

Yours in the spirit of clean competition,

Steve Hirschfeld

***

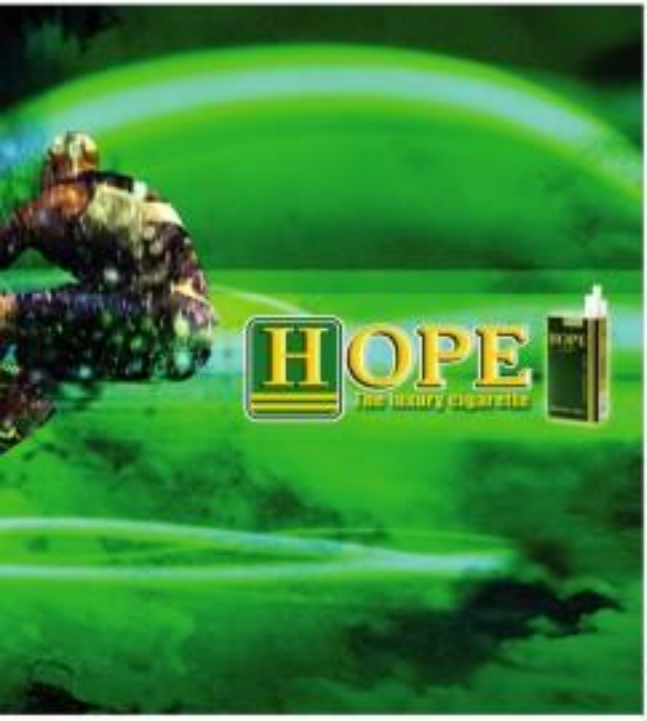
Well, the gospel here is for Scott Trudeau to be able to work his magic and make Bata's big dollars disappear.

Look, Bata may continue to flash his sweet, enigmatic smile through thick and thin. He could just shrug his shoulder and say what the heck, all in the game.

Of course, there's deep resentment among Bata's fans that jubilated as one and went on to wish him as a more relevant sportsman than Manny Pacquiao after that IPT saw to Reno in the greater September of his years.

The very things have dragged, it's only Scott Trudeau who can stop the world from suspecting that Bata The Magician has allowed himself to be outfoxed by a bigger trick artist.

Sorry, but the lanes went down Bata on the verge of losing, and the prospective winner owning big as a match he has proven to render the pool table.



moking is dangerous to your health.

Coach E list-up extended

SPORTS

DAGUPAN MILO ELIMS

Baguio runners show 'em

DAGUPAN CITY—JOEL BENEDIC A. CRESPO-ter from Baguio City and Catherine Joyce Begino, a cadet fourth class at the Philippine Military Academy, ruled the qualifying runs of the 2006 National Milo Marathon here yesterday.

The 22-year-old Benguey paced himself early in the 21K hot race and stepped on the gas with seven kilometers left to shake his fleeting rider with a time of 1 hour 26 minutes and 35 seconds.

Glenn Angkahit settled for second place in 1:27:07 while his Lyceum Dagupan teammate John Cabangon finished third in 1:29:25.

Benguey said he had to take it easy due to a slight pain on his foot early in the event held in partnership with Shoe Mart (SM), Milo, Coca-Cola Pacific Tangerine of Tourism and Swarthon.

Rubino Javier actually finished third but was disqualified because he already ran in the Subic City race last month where he placed fifth.

Rules allow a runner to compete in any of the 29 elimination races all over the country but can claim a top 10 finish just once.

Begino, a 19-year-old native of Bangil, Laguna, who went into long-distance running only in the PMA, won the women's race in 1:38:16.

Placing second was another Baguio runner, Linnda Jurnayo (1:39:22), while Linda Herrera, a policewoman of the crime laboratory based in Tuguegarao, settled for third place in 1:44:50.

Benguey and Begino each won P50,000 and made it to the national finals set in Manila in December along with the No. 2 and No. 3 finishers.

Nelson Lingayenon and Saidi Mendhir pocketed in the 5K fun run while the 3K children's age group was dominated by Marc-Richards and Jess Fonacier in the 10-12 age group.

MILO Marathon leg winners Joel Benguey and Catherine Begino are flanked by Dagupan City Vice Mayor Alvin Fernandez (left) and Milo Sports Arena executive Pat Gaa (right) after the awards rites.

the home depot alabang • baliuag ortigas

alabang home depot

baliuag home depot

ortigas home depot

DOUBLE DISCOUNT ANNIVERSARY SALE

OCT. 1-30, 2006

VARIOUS ITEM DISCOUNT ON SELECTED PRODUCTS!
ADDITIONAL DISCOUNT ON TOTAL SINGLE TRANSACTION.

ABC · American Standard · APEC · Ayala · Black & Decker · Tools · National · Champs · Akari · COOL · Davies · Firefly · Lotus · Lepanto · Wilcoat · Marco Polo · Hornitex · Fumaco · Tile-On · Watermelon · Centor · Royal Tone · Schlage · Marivasa · Gold Key · Yale · Apollo · MaxSell · Watson · WaterCare · Stanley · Home Aid · Endo · Wampro · Hanwha · Drapeware · Lights · Aqua Guard · Tundra · Decowood · Gardena · Drylok · Toto

Alabang Home Depot
Lot 1B2-1R1 Alabang-Zapote Road cor. Filinvest Ave.
Pamplona-Alabang, Muntinlupa City Tel Nos. 771.1827 to 29

Baliuag Home Depot
MH Highway, Brgy. Tarcan, Baliuag, Bulacan
Tel Nos. (044) 766.7867 & (02) 388.8288

Ortigas Home Depot
#1 Dona Julia Vargas Ave., cor. Connor, Mercedes Ave.
Brgy. Ugong, Pasig City Tel Nos. 638.5113 to 13

Julia Vargas Avenue

* See Flyers for more details.

Rev DTI-NCR Permit No. 4388 Series of 2006

Lady Pirates nail WNCAA cage crown

DEMON DETCLAIMED COLLEGE OF ST. Benilde, 64-35, Sunday to capture the Senior A basketball crown at the St. Scholastica's College gym and women to second championship in the 2006 season of the WNCAA.

Maureen Machlin led all Lady Pirates scorers with 12 points, with Diane Nivea, Sharmie San Juan and April Laudiani chipping in eight each.

Lyceum, which lagged the Senior A outfit behind with their Mythological University loss, second, were Senior 1 at contention, 42-20, but St. Benilde tied the series after a 51-48 victory in Game 3.

Lyceum's Laudiani was adjudged Senior A MVP and joined teammate Mahinay, St. Benilde's Lourette Sabuncio, AMA Computer's Happy Kristine Ong and Centro Escolar's Junior Calangian in the All-Tournament Five.

The WNCAA season is presented by Addition and supported by Solar Sports, Snickers Goodness, CSB-SSS, Milkies, Nestlee and Gatorade.

In junior action, St. Scholastica and Mapúa College took the openers of their respective best-of-three Finals series.

St. Scholastica downed Gen Bella Alabang in straight sets, 25-14, 25-11, 25-22, in volleyball while Mapúa edged Chiang Kai Shek College, 86-84, in basketball.

St. Scholastica and Mapúa go for the title on Saturday.

Depsted defending champion Dr. La Salle Zobel, behind Hannah Hechos's game-high 25 points, salvaged third place with a 63-57 win over San Beda Alabang.

SPORTSWATCH

Skywalker cage clinic on

QUARRY'S ARTS GOVERNADOR DAVIDE HALL CLINIC kicks off today at the Ateneo Sports Ramp at the Fort in Taguig City. Two-hour clinics on Oct. 17 and 18 and Nov. 3, 10 and 28. Sponsored by Amerikan Vinyl Spalding, Sun Mbpad Corp., Sara Lee, Dasilva and Proline, the cage clinic with the famed "Skywalker" of the Philippine Basketball Association will also feature veteran coaches Eric Altamirano, Noel Bautista, Mel Casabesa and Carl Henderson. Sandoy Lee will be happy to provide more details at 521-1004.

Sports chief for Santiago

FORMER PBA GUARD MARIO TING-KAO OF the Metro Manila Association of the Philippines, has been appointed city sports commissioner by Santiago Mayor Amy Mercado to head her sports grassroots development program. Ting-Kao, also a sports columnist, said he would organize regular tournaments to develop more athletes in the province. "From the start, sports has always been on top of my programs," she said.

PCAP stagfest in Makati

MORE THAN 10 MEN'S TEAMS ARE SCHEDULED today in the ninth leg of Pinoy Cockers Association of the Philippines (PCAP) 3-stag derby at the Makati Coliseum while 8 Mang Dodoy Association of Makati are male backers. With three more stagfests left before the PCAP Stagfighter of the Year season tuneup competition is expected to shift to the high gear, said promoter Lito Dillian. Rudy Salud and Wilbert Co. For inquiries, call 896-3560 or 894-6474.

'Laborian' stables at SJC

THE THIRD EDITION OF ELIMINATIONS OF THE "NO Entry Fee Laborian" 7-stag derby series (Metro Manila leg) gets going at the San Juan Coliseum today with Sagupaan Cockpit 2000 hosting the 6th fight program. More than 200 entries have registered in this series which offers a guaranteed prize of P1.2 million. The champion handler wins P300,000. Runner-four will be feted at Pasay Cockpit on Oct. 28, with Amadeo Dalisayan leading round five on Oct. 29. For inquiries, call 8894-4455/EDE or 8661-6884/TOE.

Diamante tilt up at RMC

DOUBLE SPEC OF THE DIAMANTE BROTHERS in Stag Derby gets going at Philippine Mega Cockpit at 6 p.m. today with 11 matches on tap. Sponsored by Lakpue Drug, Inc. and Chanderbhan Electronics, the derby features participants rubbing feet when each is tied but only a first round Sibling Rivalry. Bro Jaimee Dee Jay, Wilbert Enriquez, Dj Amante and Boy Torres. The finals is on Wednesday. Promoter Rolly Lapis said admission price has been reduced to P300.

BUSINESS

Julio Raul D. Marcelo • Assistant Editor Corrie S. Mariano

Customs exceeds 9-month collection target

Even as typhoon causes shortfall in September

IN THIS ISSUE

■ **Leviste's** disappearing act /B3

■ **Firms urge BOI** to grant them perks /B7

■ **RP poised** for higher growth in '07, UBS says /B12

By Michelle V. Rosca

THE BUREAU OF CUSTOMS MISSED ITS REVENUE-COLlection target for September by 10.6 percent, its first one-month shortfall for the year.

Government documents showed that of the agency's P24.515-billion goal for the month, it collected only P16.300-billion in duties and taxes on imported goods.

Despite the shortfall, the BOC still managed to stay on track of its target for the January to September period, due to the excess tax take it recorded in August.

Customs collection for the first nine months of the year stood at P146.30-billion, or P2.495-billion higher than the target of P143.424-billion. Itself, August, the collection was 97.3-billion higher than the eight-month target.

Customs Commissioner Napoleon Morales earlier said the shortfall had to do partly with the power supply outage caused by Typhoon Milenyo as the power outage hampered the electronic processing of documents in non-cash duty payments.

He said there were supposedly P1.4 billion worth of non-cash duty payments to be included in the agency's September collection, but could not be credited for last month because of processing delays.

Government agencies that import are allowed to pay duties in non-cash form, which are then deducted from their budget allocation based allowed by the national government.

The BOC's shortfall in September was contributed by 10 of the 26 customs districts nationwide that failed to meet their respective targets.

The biggest individual district shortfall, or those beyond P100 million, were recorded by the Manila International Container Port (MICP), P13.075 billion; Ninoy Aquino International Air-

CUSTOMS B2

Moody's seen upgrading RP outlook to 'positive'

INTERNATIONAL RATINGS FIRM MOODY'S Investors Service is expected to upgrade its outlook on the Philippines from "negative" to "stable" by the end of the year.

In said investment bank Barclays Capital, which based its optimistic forecast on the expected substantial drop in the national government's budget deficit. That, in turn, will influence a better credit outlook for the country.

Among major international credit rating firms, only Moody's still keeps a "negative" outlook on the Philippines. Fitch Ratings and Standard & Poor's (S&P) have revised their outlook on the country to "stable" following improvement in the fiscal front.

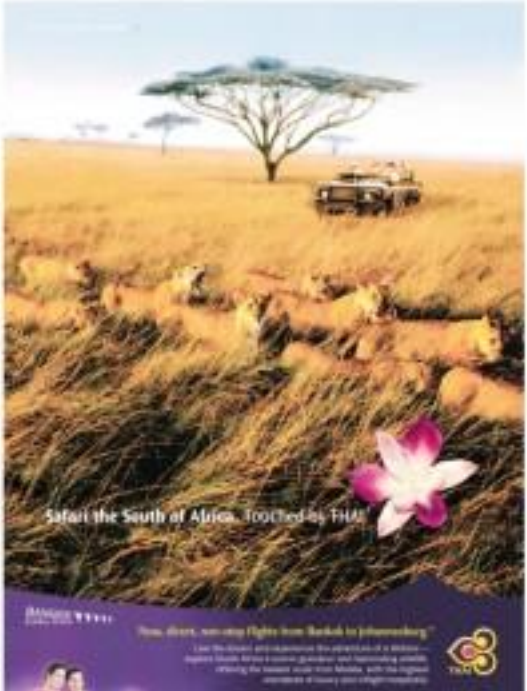
"One important point to note is that unlike in previous years, a significant proportion of the improvement [deficit reduction] came via increasing revenues. This should lead Moody's moving the outlook on its B1 sovereign rating to positive from negative," Barclays said in its recent assessment of the Philippines.

The fund manager made a forecast that the government's budget deficit for 2006 would settle at around P149 billion, or 26 percent lower than the official target of P125 billion. Last year, the deficit hit P146.3-billion.

Barclays noted that in the first eight months of the year, the government's deficit amounted to only P94.3 billion, giving it enough elbow room to increase expenditures in the remaining months of the year. It said the government was likely to maximize the P86-billion supplemental budget in the remaining months, therefore increasing the deficit to P100 billion by year's end.

But while it expects Moody's to improve its outlook on the Philippines to "positive," Barclays does not expect an immediate credit rating upgrade by S&P, saying that substantial improvement on the fiscal front was required to merit a credit rating upgrade.

A "negative" outlook indicates that a country bears the threat of a downgrade to its credit rating, while a "stable" outlook reflects the likelihood that a certain rating will be maintained within the short term. A "positive" outlook indicates the possibility of a credit rating upgrade within the same period. *Michelle V. Rosca*



Stocks seen to rise

₱500-M export dev't fund eyed

By Doris C. Dumlao

Investment Trust Fund for Philippine Exports (ITFPE) is the key fund, Economic Planning Secretary Romulo Neri said he would push for the creation of a ₱500-million government-funded export development fund to help boost the competitiveness of exporters.

Neri, also a member of the Arroyo-frontrunning Philippine policy-making Monetary Board, told reporters that assistance from revenue-positive workers and earnings from the business process outsourcing sector that were "growing by leaps and bounds" would inevitably help the peso-earning against the dollar.

"Intervention in the market will be basically to manage fluctuations but if the dollars keep on coming in, inexorably we may be in for a stronger peso over the long run and the best way to counter that is to do what the Japanese did...what is to keep on intensifying and upgrading the exports' product," Neri said.

Neri said the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas and the Department of Trade and Industry must now act on his proposal to establish a

FULL STORY B2

Congratulations to the first quarterly draw winners!

BPI Express JOURNEYS

BPI Express MOBILE
Cirilo Veloso
Cagayan de Oro City
Vacation package at the exotic Club Paradise Resort in Palawan

BPI Express PHONE
Clarita Natividad
Pandacan, Manila
Exhilarating vacation package at Bohol Beach Club

BPI Express TELLER ATM
Robert Bernabe
Sta. Lucia, Laguna
Relaxing accommodations at the Mandarin Oriental Manila

BPI Express ONLINE
Rolando Angeles Jr.
San Mateo, Rizal
Invigorating spa package at Boracay

Win more when you keep using BPI Express Services! Next Draw: Nov. 14, 2006 • Grand Draw: Feb.14, 2007

BPI Express Services. Anytime. Anywhere.

BPI We'll take you farther.

More contradictions

Ms. Ace Lim, Congenial Entrepreneur, Ace Mega, Inc.

Sa **ACE Suites**
lagi kang at home.

LAST WEEK'S COLUMN PROVOKED SOME feedback from readers who affirmed my observations on the puzzles, contradictions and ironies in our current economic performance.

The common message was how they find it hard to identify with the seemingly good news on economic growth, given the way their businesses—and those of their other friends in business—are actually faring.

"There's nothing more valuable for an economic team to examine like we—than to hear first hand accounts from people who are interested in the real economy, whether as consumers or as producers/sellers of the goods and services we all consume.

I think my respondents' views further that, while anecdotal, their stories are very real and painful, and can be more useful than aggregate statistics for identifying proper responses from those who draft our economic directions.

Pervasive pessimism

Actually, the trouble for (last) Business/Economic or pseudo-economic that I had not yet dis-

NO FREE LUNCH

Cielito F. Habito

cussed in last week's piece, which dealt only with those of more such puzzles or contradictions that figure in my recent economic briefings.

That is the puzzle that even as the economy is growing at a respectable rate, indicators of both consumer and business confidence are down.

The BSP Quarterly Survey on Consumer Confidence yielded an index of minus 37.2 percent in the third quarter—meaning that consumers who anticipate worse times ahead (i.e. the pessimists) outnumber those who anticipate improvement in the economy (the optimists) by that percentage.

While this significantly improved on the second quarter figure of -58.7 percent, it reflects pervasive pessimism on the part of consumers.

Not surprisingly, poorer families are more pessimistic (-61.8 percent) than richer families (-20.6 percent), but the high margin of pessimism even among the rich speaks volumes.

Commonly cited reasons are rising prices, political strife, higher unemployment and weak government policies. Not even the tapering inflation rate has kept people from seeing rising prices as a problem. But then again, our inflation is still among the worst in the region, only Indonesia has a higher inflation rate than we do among our immediate neighbors.

Declining optimism

On the business side, the trends show a similar pessimism... that's good news... but there is also bad news. There was a significant drop in that optimism to the last quarter.

From a 11.3-percent margin for the second quarter, the BSP's Business Confidence Index has dropped to 11.7 percent, or an almost 50-percentage-point drop. Moreover, of the 16 industries surveyed, only three—real estate, utilities, and mining/ labor—are now the main optimistic sectors.

In concluding, someone called my attention to just another apparent contradiction here.

Statistics show that construction expenditures plunged by 1.2 percent. In fact, private construction fell by a steep 18.5 percent, while growth in government construction accelerated. Overall, domestic capital fell by 14 percent in the first quarter to a mere 2.1 percent in the second quarter.

And yet it was the construction people who the BSP survey showed to be among the most upbeat about the economy.

Stated for explanation, I could only speculate that perhaps, the construction people saw no other way to go but up, given the current sluggishness of their industry (but I would welcome feedback from those in the industry on this particular point).

Per capita income

Another good news shared by the government recently was how Filipinos' average income per capita (that is, per person in every household) is still comfortably high at over $1,400.

I could have see in the Ramos economic management team had set a target of $1,300 by 1998, which we had overshot briefly—until the Asian financial crisis pushed the peso-dollar exchange rate from P26 to more than P40. Recently, that made the dollar equivalent drop back down below $1,000.

The apparent contradiction, however, is that in the face of the reported rise in per capita income, the DPEI survey showed a mood (change) index (75 percent) more than 50 percentage points below 100 percent (no worse nor better).

But then again, there is no real contradiction here. Average income is just that—it is just an average, and the figure tells us nothing about how the income is really distributed.

The fact is, the richest 20 percent of Filipinos earn more than 51 times the income than the poorest 20 percent do. We are actually worse off than in 1988, when that rich-poor gap was only 11.

Exchange rate effect

Note that a major reason the dollar per capita income figure is up is a simple exchange rate effect. We now divide the peso figure by only 50+ a buck or so ago, we had to divide it by 56+.

So, even if there had been no change in average income in pesos terms, the dollar figure would have gone up from $1,250 to $1,400 anyway. Meanwhile, the Thais are already at $3,000. The Malaysians at $5,000, and the Singaporeans at $27,500.

Our somewhere-in-between place in the Asian dominoes are still intact, at $1,200. But the Vietnamese have doubled their average income in the last eight years to $600. And those of us who have been to Cambodia only know that even this country seems poised to surpass us in the honorable future. We still have a lot of homework to do, Gentlemen. Welcome, Cielito@ateneo.edu

WE'LL FIX IT FAST!

RICOH

OFFICE

biometrics
Time and Attendance

Access Control + Time & Attendance

FREE! Payroll Pro Software

Other Products

Simple enough? SIMPLIFY
YOUR ONE STOP SHOP

MUSTARD Seed

INSPIRE
LEADERSHIP CONSULTANCY

OCTOBER LEADERSHIP TRAINING PROGRAMS

October 19, 2006
Eden Shangri-la Hotel, Mandaluyong City
THE 21 MOST USABLE LAWS OF LEADERSHIP
Facilitated by: Vanessa Sabuco

October 26 – 27, 2006
Manila Diamond City
DEVELOPING THE LEADER WITHIN YOU
Facilitated by: Andy Abella

October 27, 2006
Manila Diamond City
QUALITIES OF A TEAM PLAYER
Facilitated by: Andy Abella

EXPECT TO LEARN:

Learning Investment:
Early Bird (Save P1,000!):
P 7,477 + VAT
(for computer sets have cost obligation to purchase Inquire/Talk/Light Ventures, Inc.
Workshops OR those who still send groups of 3 or more)

Regular Corporate Rate
Invest P8,477 +VAT/pax

Corporate Group rate:
P 6,477 + VAT
(for groups of 3 or more)

Regular Corporate Rate
P 7,477 + VAT

Call Bing & Jesi at (632) 812-9125/ 813-2049 for inquiries and reservations or log-on to www.inspire.ph

Customs ...

Leviste's disappearing act

LORENZ LEGARDA LEDDER HALF PULLED the magic trick on himself this year, disappearing on the same day that Legarda Batasbalikan P2,000 coffee-table book.

Rizalist Bukangkan Gen. Antonio Leviste, whose weight—at least area-wise—always a hit among party and election crowds, flocked in at the Manila Medical Center Thursday for still another reunion.

Leviste, who suppose hide and beauty despite the—let's—Socrates age difference with the 48-year-old Legarda, was still registered in the hospital until Saturday.

Legarda herself finally admitted, in the Kapatas Batchel, talk about a few weeks ago, that she and Leviste had been separated for almost two years now—a fact that Manila's high society and media had known all along but kept among themselves.

From a dramatic pillar who sets the representation of his wife from an award-winning broadcaster to an accomplished politician, Leviste's endured presence was noticeable in the coffee-table book.

Wherever the author point in Ning Cut Yes-Black tasteful five photographs of herself, including a full-page spread. Leviste appeared in "The Story of Lorie Legarda: Her Legacy and Vision" in a single postcard-size photo nested with Legarda and her parents during their younger, happier times.

The grace photo itself was a commercial success, judging from the 1,000 revised that packed the Manila Polo Club ballroom.

According to the grapevine, organizers had brought only 200 copies, as only 200 had actually been invited, but over a thousand, among VIPs and barkers and politicos of VIPs, actually showed up, along with the usual crush of reporters and camera crew.

Even before launch date, at least 1,000 copies of the book had already been "reminisced," easily grossing P3.9 million on 13-day alone.

Even then, publication and production expenses had apparently been covered as well, judging from the number of sponsors, led by the PLDT-Smart Group and International Container Terminal Services Inc. And had anybody seen what could arguably be Legarda's comeback launch.

Grimm lecture

SUPREME COURT Justice Cancio Garcia could barely contain his incredulity at how the Court of Appeals, specifically Justices Rebecca Salvador Veneda Quimson, Bernardo Ponferrada and Edgardo Sundiam, have discarded a basic tide of evidence in the Manila Golf share case of Grimm vs. Peñoso reported last Friday.

"The CA's ruling

P500-M . . .

From page B6

now report showing that will help the sector upgrade product quality, design, packaging and global market ties.

"The example of Japan is that as the yen appreciated, they kept upgrading and upgrading [for ex-port sector]," Neri said.

If the Philippine export sector could also upgrade product quality, he said investors would charge higher dollar prices without losing market despite the peso's slump going against the dollar.

Since the start of the year, the total currency has appreciated by P3.09 or nearly 6 percent against the dollar (and Friday the exchange rate touched 49.99 before closing at 50.01).

"If we can correct this disadvantage in an advantage, then we can have a much stronger hold on the export markets, because our asset be comparing on the basis of price alone. We'll be competing based on quality which is a better way to compete," Neri stressed.

The BSP said the BTr's willing to shell out money for an export development fund. But the BSP wanted the export sector to contribute to the fund too.

"The BSP said the BTr should talk because I don't think the taxpayers can afford to subsidize everybody's lending. It's not real, sec to ask them," he said.

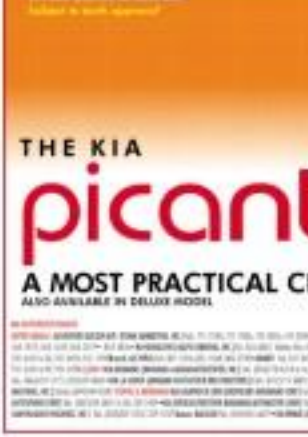
Cocktales

Victor C. Aguilin

does not command itself for acceptance. As it were, the awarded decision stalled on the wrong foot and then had to limp all along to arrive at a strained and erroneous conclusion," Ochoa wrote, as the Supreme Court's favored Christmas mood to overturn the appellate court's decision.

The case involved the ownership of a golf share in the Manila Golf Club involving the now-deceased businessmen partners Edward

CocktalesB6



Oil firm to open Bio-Fuels Center

By Abigail L. Ho

INDEPENDENT OIL PRODUCING Co will be opening its P30-million Bagsakay Bio-Fuels Center in the Philippine Coconut Authority compound in the second week of November.

The Bio-Fuels Center, a pump-refueling Biodiesel Petroleum, or diesel blended with 1 percent of coco methyl ester (CME).

Flying V director for special projects Paul Tanjuco said these biodiesel pumps would ensure the availability of the alternative fuel to government offices that have to comply with Malacañang Executive Order No. 351. The order mandated all government vehicles to run on diesel with at least 1 percent CME blend.

The Bio-Fuels Center will also house a multi-purpose building that will feature year-round exhibits and regular presentations, seminars and demonstrations targeted at transport groups and the motoring public, in general.

Prior to the actual opening of the Bio-Fuels Center, coco-biodiesel seminars and solidarity sessions were will be conducted there on Oct. 19, 24 and 27, in cooperation with the Department of Environment and Natural Resources and Biodiesel manufacturer Chemrez Inc.

The United States Agency for International Development-funded Rural Energy Development Program will also be holding an exhibit on alternative fuels starting Nov. 2.

"The construction of the Flying V Bio-Fuels Center is the first in the country, reflects Flying V's pioneering efforts in the promotion of the use of Bio-Fuels, particularly biodiesel.

THE UNIVERSITY OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA | GSM

Enroll now and Earn your Australian MBA Degree here in Manila.

- Ranked #1 MBA in Australia's Good Universities Guide (2006).
- Tenured UWA professors travel to Manila to conduct classes.
- Program design is classroom-based, flexible and part-time.
- Evening and weekend schedules, held at Ayala Avenue.
- Newsweek Top 100 Global Universities (2006).
- Fees are as low as US$1,200 per quarter.
- 12 Module, non-thesis program.

For inquiries call 887-2815, 864-2812 or email: alfredo.chavez@gsm.com.ph

www.gsm.uwa.edu.au
www.uwa.edu.au

Group of Eight

EQUIS ACCREDITED

Landbank boosts capital via subordinated debt issuance

By Doris C. Dumlao

STATE-OWNED LAND BANK OF THE Philippines has raised $120 million in the 2 capital through a foreign subordinated debt issuance.

The issuance fetched a coupon rate of 7.25 percent, the lowest ever obtained by a Philippine bank since the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas allowed tier 2 or supplementary capital owning to as an option to comply with stiff capital adequacy requirements.

The issuance, managed by Deutsche Bank, sees the first euro denominated debt issuance by Landbank and 1st Qtrs offshore borrowing since 1996.

The offering was oversubscribed, with total orders reaching $1 billion or 1.1 times the original target of $100 million, prompting the bank to increase the debt issue size allowed by local regulators to $150 million.

The pricing was tightened from the indicative level of 7.5 percent at the start of the roadshows conducted in Singapore and Hong Kong.

"We are happy with the result of the issuance, the view it as the financial markets' affirmation of Landbank's financial strength," Landbank acting president Alelia Ilusi said in a press statement yesterday.

"It is also a confirmation of the foreign investors' improving confidence on the Philippine economy," Ilusi added.

With the proceeds from this issuance, Landbank's capital adequacy ratio (CAR) is expected to improve to 19 percent from 14 percent.

While the bank did not find it necessary to increase the mandated ratio in the new international accounting standards starting 2008, it would like to prepare for the more stringent provisioning requirements under Basle 2 that will be phased in by next year.

Without the issuance, the shift to BSP's new risk-based capital ratio under Basle 2 could have seen the CAR fall by 2.5 percentage points, reportedly with the provision raising the risk weights on real and other properties owned and acquired (ROA) to 150 percent.

Landbank also posted P1.45 billion in net profit in the first half of the year, up by 16 percent over a year ago, as lower interest margins were offset by higher loan volume.

THE POSSIBILITIES ARE INFINITE FUJITSU

Fujitsu recommends Windows® XP Professional.

TOP CORPORATE NOTEBOOK

LifeBook E8020

Fujitsu LifeBook E8020 - a full-featured, high performance notebook designed for mobile professionals. Leading in the forefront of technology, this top-of-the-line powerhouse is engineered with the next-generation Intel® Centrino® Mobile Technology platform.

Enjoy superior movie-viewing clarity with the LifeBook E8020's 15" Super XGA+ display and the hot-swappable modular DVD Super Multi Drive; experience powerful graphic capabilities with its dual-channel DDR module and much more.

The LifeBook E8020 powers up for your most demanding tasks.

Powered by the next-generation Intel® Centrino® Mobile Technology

LIFEBOOK Built-In Confidence

Fujitsu Philippines, Inc. (FPI)

centrino MOBILE TECHNOLOGY

Cocktales

Read page B3

Miller Coors and Dan by Parsons

The Grimm estate maintains that the disputed shares had only been held in trust by Parsons. Parsons' sons, who had taken over the partnership with the death of the two principals, claim the disputed share is already part of the partnership's investment assets.

Inasmuch as Grimm's sons appeared as the registered owner of the shares, the court of proving otherwise would fall on the other claimants, the Supreme Court ruled.

Without a couple of an explanation, however, the appellate court maintained the value of the share certificate as arguably the best evidence of ownership, Garcia said.

"Certainly, the appellate court deviated the rule of legal presumption and limited settlement Bridle of Claims for not presenting evidence to prove that Grimm paid for his original acquisition of the Manila Golf Club shares."

"Ironically, while the CA held it against the Grimm estate for failing to adduce proof of payment for the golf shares, it nonetheless pronounced in earnest [Parsons'] claim to the same. Not terms of our certificate over. If it, too, had not presented proof for such payment," Garcia continued.

"Surely, payment cannot be validly declared, as the CA did, from the bare fact of such ostensibly certificate being listed in the books of [Parsons] as partnership investment assets."

Garcia noted that Makati Regional Trial Court Judge Francisco Bay had correctly ruled that the self-serving Parsons book entries were "not evidentiary of ownership."

"Thus, anyone who for a claim, or events, to acquire ownership over a share of stock by the simple expedience of listing, without more, the same in the partnership or corporate books," Garcia wrote.

"The sheer absurdity of the notion needs no belaboring."

Meralco's Milenyo losses

IT took over a month for Meralco, then operating only in a much smaller Greater Manila Area, to restore power after super typhoon 'Yoling' devastated the country in 1971.

In 1999 to the aftermath of Reming, the Lopez conversion utility took nearly two weeks to reconnect fallen wires and bring back power to the more much-developed metropolis.

To appreciate how Meralco and the Filipinos in general have improved in terms of disaster preparedness, overnight after being struck by the seventh calamities, click on www.meralco.ph to read the full, unabbreviated report on how Milenyo toasted Meralco and how Filipinos in far away northern areas and Greece rallied to repair power lines to their loved ones in Manila.

The report also contains snapshots of the incredible damage Milenyo had inflicted in the Meralco franchise area.

Money-go-round

- THE MANILA Golf Club is thinking of closing down the golf course to two years for completion, the course's economic, after Fort Bonifacio Development Corp. reportedly refused to allow back-easy access to trucks and construction area.

- PHILIPPINE National Bank is crying foul over the P1.49-million "overpayment" erroneously returned to hotels. PTC Judge Raul Bulaon to a bank borrower who never included the alleged overpayment in his papers.

The bank borrower has also the good fortune and foresight of retaining a former client of the same judge in his counsel.

Heard through the grapevine

THE QUEZON City Prosecutor's Office has filed a criminal complaint against Citibank and two bank officers for having allegedly submitted a false quit-claim document to support the bank's counter-claim against the illegal dismissal case filed by an ex-operations officer.

Senate financial controller Ita Oscar Bulos claimed he never signed the quit-claim document presented by Citibank before illegal dismissal case. Prosecutor Raul Abad, against the UK bank, before the Manila Regional Trial Court's Criminal Case.

Email: cocktales@cocktales.biz

Gov't eyes $200-M ADB loan for capital market development

To fund IC, SEC, PDIC plans

By Michelle V. Ramos

THE GOVERNMENT IS SEEKING a $200 million official development assistance from the Asian Development Bank to support a program to develop the country's sluggish capital market.

Finance Undersecretary Roberto Tan told reporters the CIDA would be used to strengthen the regulatory capacity of the Insurance Commission, Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) and Philippine Deposit Insurance Corp. (PDIC).

The Congress also the insurance industry while the SEC oversees the private sector and the country's equities market. PDIC provides liquidity support to the banking sector.

Tan said the IC needed the ADB loan for its recapitalization program, which was hoped to improve the agency's ability to help in the management of risks of the insurance industry.

The SEC will also be used to partly fund the agency's ongoing computerization program.

Called the Financial Assistance Intermediation Loan, the CIDA is expected to be approved soon by the ADB. It would carry an annual interest equivalent to Libor London Interbank Overnight Rate) plus 48 basis points, the minimum imposed by the ADB on countries that are considered good borrowers.

Moves is coming from the regulatory functions of agencies overseeing the capital market come with initiatives to push for reforms in the sector.

The Capital Market Development Council (CMDC), composed of industry players, had submitted to the DOF a program to boost economy in the market. The blueprint, while already approved in principle by the DOF, needs to be formally approved before it could be published and adopted.

Begin 2007 right with a Biometric-enabled "real-time" Integrated Attendance Monitoring & Payroll Solution

General Ledger
Sales
Inventory
POS
Accounting

920-3369
921-4054
433-1510
433-1514

softworld, inc.

Record your phone conversation using your PC
WaveLink-Express

Attention:
Law Firms, Collection Agencies, Insurance Agents, Medical Professionals, Bankers, Financial Brokers
Customer Service Centers

The RSBS tragedy

THE RETIREMENT AND SEPARATION Benefits System (RSBS), the military pension fund scheme, will close down. The official word is "divestment") by the end of this year. After running on an empty tank for years, RSBS has finally approved its fate. It is bankrupt.

Born in 1973, the RSBS is the second system computed for generous military retirees and indeed the amount owed the fund got the approval by Congress. It was years-in-the-making.

In 1995, Marcos set up RSBS. It is claimed that pensions would be funded by subscriptions from salaries of military personnel. In seed money, P500 million was appropriated.

At the start, definitions were set 6 percent of salary. Later the deductions were raised to 5 percent. It was this "three percentage point" deduction arbitrarily. There seemed to have been no actuarial basis.

The pay system got reformed and was now the soldier anything in it. In fact, the AFP was putting money away for the soldier for future deductions to him at retirement. On the other hand, the Marcos plan cost the poorly paid soldier 5 percent of his salary. But martial law was still in effect and nobody dared squawk.

It should be instructive of a funded pension plan, such as the RSBS, is that management finds itself awash with huge sums of money, called the reserves, that has to be invested. At the Social Security System (SSS) and at the Government Service Insurance System (GSIS), investing the reserves is spelled out in great detail in their respective charters.

The Marcos decrees had only one single rule: investments (and only the joint approval of the chief of staff and the secretary of defense. There was absolutely no details as to the limits and classes of investments. RSBS could channel its funds to him.

In 1988, Orly Mercado, President Ferdinand's steadfast Secretary of Defense, blew the lid off the whole setup/system.

Mercado found RSBS illiquid (another euphemism for bankrupt). This was the result of the fact that more than 50 percent of its total investments were in severely over-priced real estate supposedly to be developed into residential and commercial subdivisions, and golf courses. (In the private sector, real estate investments of mature companies account for less than 10 percent of total investments.)

So into the money for the real estate deals, RSBS borrowed from the banks. The loans were unsurprisingly dipping into the soldiers' retirement. They initiated the bank principle that pension funds are in the business to lend, not to borrow.

Mercado was particularly sore at the retired generals running RSBS who had supposedly paid P4 million in revolutionary taxes to the RSBS in connection with the purchase of some land in Bulacan. Talk about investing with the enemy.

The investments were not the result of bad judgement on the part of the retired generals who were managing RSBS. It was good hocuspocus on a scale seldom seen in Philippine-virtue history.

Once would think that the retired generals would have taken good care of the funds contributed by our peers by the early and fifty. Instead, they ravaged the funds to enrich themselves.

Now that RSBS will be dismantled by the end of the year, what happens to all the contributions (estimated P500 million now?) of the active military personnel?

How are the rents filled in our system with all those shady real estate deals coming atop? Are we seeing again proof of the old saying that we learn the lessons of history but we learn the lessons of history?

A new pension system is being cooked up. I suggest Defense Secretary Avelino Cruz should hire some topnotch actuaries who are in private practice. Or are retirements a couple if Cruz seems one to.

What should worry all of us is the adverse effect on the morale of our troops. Will they go on pursuing the Abu Sayyaf and the NPA if supposedly knowing that their contributions to the retirement fund are being melted away by crooked retired generals?

Maybe those crooked retired generals should be lined up against the wall in front of a firing squad made up of priests. That should do wonders to the morale of our troops.

Banks' NPL ratio up

By Doris C. Dumlao

THE BAD LOANS TO TOTAL loans ratio of Philippine commercial banks inched up to 7.2 percent as of mid-August from the previous month's 7.17 percent as the expansion of unsupervised banks outpaced the decline in the industry's total loan portfolio, the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas said.

The banking system's NPL ratio has dropped to post-Asian crisis lows this year after peaking at 18.82 percent in October 2001. The decline was aided by the Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) law which allowed banks to unload about P95 billion in bad assets.

Based on a BSP report, the system's NPLs expanded by 0.78 percent in August versus a month ago, while loan portfolio grew by only 0.23 percent.

The August NPL ratio stood 2.2 percentage points better than the 9.4 percent a year ago.

Excluding unsecured bank loans, the sector's NPL ratio also climbed to 8.69 percent from 8.54 percent a month ago.

Restructured loans as of mid-August fell to 5.302 percent as ratio of total loans from 5.67 percent at mid-July prompted by a 0.66 percent reduction in peso-restructured loans to P96.71 billion.

The ratio of nonperforming restructured loans to total restructured loans nosedug to 47.18 percent or 1.37 percentage points higher than month ago level.

The Philippine Daily Inquirer delivers.
Call 896-6000 to subscribe!

METROBANK

SUBASTA BONANZA

VISAYAS/MINDANAO PROPERTIES

AS LOW AS 0% INTEREST • LOW DOWNPAYMENT • AS LONG AS 10 YEARS TO PAY

2:00 P.M. TO 6:00 P.M. (REGISTRATION STARTS AT 2:00 P.M. / AUCTION PROPER STARTS AT 3:00 P.M.)

Auction on October 23, 2006, Monday/ DYNASTY HOTEL, Tiano-Hayes St., CAGAYAN DE ORO (near San Agustin Cathedral)

Auction on October 25, 2006, Wednesday/ Penthouse Metrobank Davao Center, Ramon Magsaysay Avenue, DAVAO CITY

For more details, call THE PROPERTY FORUM PHILS.
TELEPHONE NOS.: (02) 5349536 / (02) 5346964; Gen. Santos Office: (083) 5523320 CELLPHONE NO.: 09283771111

PHILIPPINE STOCK EXCHANGE

CURRENCIES

Stocks seen . . .

From page B1

said Alan Yu, head of investment management at Metrobank.

He said the market has also benefited from a slew of good economic news.

Overseas Filipino workers' remittances sustained the $3 billion level for the fourth consecutive month in August at $3.089 billion, bringing the January-August total to $24.1 billion, up 11.2 percent from the same period last year.

Investor confidence is also being bolstered by the announcement of the 5.3-percent year-on-year rise in GDP during the second quarter, the [illegible] slowdown in the inflation rate to 6.3 percent in August, the FY 4.2 billion budget surplus in August (the fourth monthly surplus posted this year), the materialization of key policy reforms like the EVAT, oil bourses and the SSS the restructuring of the peso and easing oil prices. Elizabeth L. Sanchez

Firms urge BOI to grant them perks

Pioneer status entitles them to incentives, proponents say

By Reuter/PNA
Inquirer
Southern Luzon Bureau

A NUMBER OF BUSINESS firms have asked the Board of Investments to reconsider its decision not to grant them incentives, insisting that they are entitled to perks.

Sources at the BOI told the Inquirer that these firms include Laguindoy Packaging, Philippine Gaming Management, Igloo Storage, Coca-Cola Bottlers, Lepanto Consolidated Mining and GNPower.

Their projects are related to food packaging, printing and reinforcement, however most involving cold storage facilities, copper extraction and power generation—the last four of which are worth P3 billion and P4.5 billion, respectively.

The projects were given pioneer status but were not given an investment holiday.

The application of these firms were processed under a recently adopted scheme where the Department of Finance is represented in the board and can recommend whether to grant income tax holiday to investors.

The new scheme is aimed at resolving disagreements between the trade and finance departments on whether tax exemptions for investors are beneficial to the government.

Trade officials believe tax perks are key in attracting investments while finance officials think they are responsible for billions of pesos in foregone revenues for the state.

When reached for comment, Trade Undersecretary and BOI Managing Head Elmer C. Hernandez admitted that some firms were seeking a review of their registration with the agency.

"But as this is still considering. Board decisions can be appealed within 30 days of the date of notice [of the approval of an application's BOI Issue]," Hernandez said, declining to say anything further.

Last July, heads of banks and negotiations with the Board of Investments to longer entered into contract to tax perks as Manufacturing pushed through.

This means that the BOI is going too on granting tax breaks and other incentives.

Still, investors are assured that they could import capital goods duty-free and avail themselves of other fiscal and non-fiscal incentives.

Before the rules were changed, projects that were given pioneer status were qualified for a tax holiday even if the investors could get tax exemptions for up to four years.

The new rules provided that while eligible

UPGRADE AT A DOWNGRADED COST.

intel Xeon inside
Dual-core. Do more.

₱180,000* HP PROLIANT ML310 G5

₱99,999* HP Proliant DL140 G3

₱120,000* HP Proliant ML150 G3

₱255,000* HP Proliant DL380 G5

₱125,000* HP Proliant DL140 G3

₱99,999* HP Proliant ML150 G3

₱230,000* HP Proliant DL380 G5

₱175,000* HP Proliant DL360 G5

₱215,000* HP Proliant ML370 G5

1-800-1441-6688
or (632) 867-3557
ph.contact@hp.com
www.iloveproliant.com.ph

Wendy's sets P100-million investment

By Christine A. Goykian

WENDY'S HAMBURGERS PHILIPPINES (Wendy's) Corp. will invest some P100 million in the expansion of its branch network and the setting up of its brand of fresh-fast food options in cafeterias in schools, offices and hospitals.

Wendy's president Elizabeth Freda-Osbera said setting up with a healthier menu was part of its strategy to capture a bigger slice of the market's increasingly health- and fresh-conscious.

Freda-Osbera said the Wendy's fast food chain does not only compete with other quick service restaurants but with the entire food-service industry, including meals in office workers and students.

"One of our plans is to expand Wendy's super value menu" that offers complete meals worth P20 to remain competitive," she said.

This would be done, she said, without losing sight of the Wendy's core menu of burgers and fries.

She added that Wendy's would remain committed to serving more healthy food to complement with the Department of Health's (DOH's).

"Unlike in the past, customers can now order grilled, pan-fried patties without the buns, fresh salad without the usually-sticky, yeast-loaded mayonnaise dressing, or plain baked potato which is rich in carbohydrates. It also now has low-sugar iced tea," she added.

She said that the company would promote DOH's "healthy lifestyle corner" in its store nationwide.

The spot will have a weighing scale, body mass index and textual guide and other materials promoting a healthy lifestyle.

According to Wendy's Corp.'s general manager Jesus Ebro III, Jan. the company plans to build 75 fresh express stores offering fresh salads and other Wendy's meal products.

By the end of this year, the company will start plan the construction of 30 fresh express stores.

Wendy's new fresh express salad stations provided the unveiled boost to sales, which should push the company on its way to growing by at least 10 percent by the end of the year, Ebro said.

E-mail: jr_sto_tech@inquirer.com.ph

INFOTECH

Text us your feedback: type in 'text@gadgets' message to 2207 (Globe) or 383 (Smart)

Cardboard Speakers: Just like a gift box

www.mojicrafter.co.uk

Yes, you can! This lightweight, collapsible speakers with you wherever you go. Plug them into the headphone socket of your personal stereo to enjoy your favorite songs out loud. And when you're done listening (and probably singing, too), just fold it up!

Future iMac: Down, Mac lovers

This is just the latest concept of illustrators and designers hitting Internet. This design features a 30" LCD screen; that's roomy enough for two or one. The keyboard is even embellished with light-sensitive keys. The whole setup has a bright effect that will make you wonder, "Can I actually touch this thing without breaking it?" Let's keep our fingers crossed on this one.

Etched RAZR: No-pain tattoo

www.mobilewhack.com

Motorola is offering this "tattooed" version of its clamshell cellphone. Exclusively designed for Motorola by Ami Amor of Miami Ink, the Chinese dragon print is laser-etched on the phone's aluminum body. Now stop for you-know-us that Art Lovers, promo.

A slice of Mobile Philippines' tech Eden

Cool Fan Mouse: Anything but boring

www.highspeedcomputers.com

Tired of using your boring, white mouse? Try this ergonomically designed mouse with air circulation holes and shutter. It comes with a six-foot long wall-coated wire and USB/PS2 combo connectors. It even has LED lights, which illuminates the body of the mouse. It's pretty much has an effect of a flashing saber-toothed. Only it isn't. But then, you can still imagine.

Sexsports: Finally! Something for girls

www.sexsports.com

These headphones, which are compatible with most portable music players, come with a line of headbands and earplugs. The earphones are attached to bendable boom arms for individual adjustments. The specially-designed headphone clasps, where the drop earrings are attached, fit directly into the headband. These are fashion and music junkies rolled into one!

iPod-ready jacket: Perfect for the iPod-ready jeans

www.leviproducts.com

After Levi's iPod jeans scenes this spring and melee over jeans pocket for iPods, Levi's® ESS jacket features a five-button switch sensor on its left sleeve for controlling iPod functions. The iTrip® remote pad requires no batteries and supports most iPod models.

e-Solar Anchorage Bag: Every geek wants one

www.paconline.com

Isn't it frustrating when your gadget runs out of power just when you most need it? Well, here comes every mobile user's relief. This e-Solar Anchorage bag features a solar panel for charging your gadgets. It provides power to your USB and 12V lighter-based devices. You'll never be turn-empty again.

Magic MultiPot: It's a lamp, a socket, and a bucket

www.spawndesign.com

This hybrid, multi-functional lamp combines a LED ambient light, multi-socket, and a loose, vase-shaped spout used for viewing away extra cables. It's perfect for your home and your office. There's no reason now to scramble on tangled wires.

EarBuddy: Love your iPod earbuds

www.earbuddies.com

One of the most neglected iPod accessories is the iPod earbuds. Show some TLC by stashing them in the EarBuddy. This carrying case is one of the few solutions to store your earbuds. It's so nifty you can even use it as a keychain!

Canon PowerShot A640: It keeps getting better

www.canon.co.uk

The Canon Powershot A640 features a stunning 2.5" vari-angle LCD, 4x optical zoom lens and maximum ISO400 sensitivities. There are 21 shooting modes to choose from. Its second Canon Spot function allows for creative flash exposures, and its My Colours function makes artistic photo effects possible. What more can you ask for? Oh, did we mention it's a 10-megapixel camera?

Ain't no mountain high enough: A fresh look at GPS

By Avi Bano
Contributor

GPS STANDS FOR GLOBAL POSITIONING Systems. It helps keep planes flying in the right direction, prevents groups on Himalayan Everest expeditions from losing their way, and guides ships through the vast expanse of the earth's oceans.

The good news is that anybody can get access to this service provided one happens to have a GPS receiver, which currently comes in all shapes and sizes, from $99 to hard, and you will know precisely where in the world you are (even if, say, you were dropped off a plane into the middle of nowhere).

How it works

Somewhere over our heads, miles above, over two dozen satellites have been positioned strategically as signal beacons to guide everyone else placed on terra firma. Think of these satellites as landmarks that give us an idea where we are. Except that these satellites are not for sense as landmarks, so the navigation is done via radio signals.

There are 27 satellites orbiting the earth. Only 24 are actually needed, but there is always the possibility that a satellite or two would inadvertently fail, so there are up there as backup units).

Triiate... what?

To identify your current position, you will need a GPS receiver to collect the signals from those satellites. The satellites transmit unique, coded digital signals with time stamps included in the satellites, courtesy of onboard atomic clocks that have been fitted into each satellite. Our GPS receivers, whether handheld or built into planes and other transports, gather these data and, by calculating the distance between the receiver and the satellites, generate the correct coordinates.

The calculation isn't that complex to do. Each satellite transmits its unique code, orbital location, as well as a time stamp. To a GPS receiver, this serves as the "landmark" data, except that the receiver calculates the satellite's distance using the time it took for the signal to reach the receiver. (This is where the time stamp comes in handy). With data from four satellites, the receiver can "trilaterate" its position. Note that the difference between trilateration and triangulation is that while the latter uses the computation of angles of known points to compute a position, this former makes use of distances.

The receiver does these computations continuously in order to fine-tune the data, even double-checking the calculations with other satellites beyond the minimum four that are required. This is why it takes some time for a GPS receiver to process the data.

Way cool waypoints

A standard feature among GPS receivers is waypoints. Waypoints are any set of coordinates that help you get to a particular destination. For instance, if you want to go to Baguio, a waypoint set may include coordinates for the entrance of the North Luzon Expressway, and then Tarlac City, and so on, along key intersections until you finally reach Baguio City. Your GPS would keep track of where you are and point you toward your next waypoint, thus simplifying your navigation.

The future is on track

Technically, the GPS system is "owned" by the United States. Which means that it is always theoretically possible (although unlikely) for the United States to prevent other countries from using it.

This is why other countries are building their own satellite positioning systems as well. For instance, the European Union has been busy putting together the Galileo program, which will launch its own set of satellites into space, offering a cheaper-up version of the aging GPS system.

Not all interest are progressive, however. GPS is alive and well and may be of use for the foreseeable future. That is, unless more than three of its satellites eventually crash and... Oooh.

(See the September-October issue of Mobile Philippines for more reviews, previews, tips and Nordyack tricks, hands-on reviews of the Nokia N71 and Samsung SGH-D820, Access 360 Ultra, Alps Loxsing JT2, Sony Ericsson K850/W880, Holux 3088, and many more. Mobile also gives you the lowdown on high-end car alarms and the newest accessories for laptops. Step by step articles on photography, music, shopping from iTunes, and blogging are also featured. And find out what the editors chose as Mobile's Pick of the Month.)

Bank of Cebu appeals closure order

By Jeannes Magallanes
Inquirer Visayas

CEBU CITY—BANK OF CEBU Officials have asked Congress to conduct an inquiry on the closure and receivership order issued by the Monetary Board of the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas against the bank.

Bank of Cebu president and chief executive officer Aphonsus Salcedo sent a letter on October 9 to Rep. Jaime Lopez, chairman of the House Committee on Banks and Financial Institutions, asking him to initiate a congressional inquiry on the closure of the seven branches of the Bank of Cebu last August 31.

According to Salcedo, the BSP and Philippine Deposit Insurance Corp. abused their authority when they placed the bank under receivership, claiming that there was no basis for issuing a closure order.

"Hopefully, with a proper congressional investigation, we will be able to correct a very fatal flaw in the law to ensure the protection of the depositors and the employees of the banks from abuses committed by the officials, officers and staff of the BSP and PDIC," Salcedo said in a letter sent to media.

Bank of Cebu, one of the oldest banks in Cebu, has around 8,000 depositors. 98 percent of whom are covered by PDIC insurance.

3 coco processing plants set in Leyte

Abundant supply attracts investors

By Vicente S. Lubro
Inquirer Visayas

TACLOBAN CITY—AT LEAST THREE NEW coconut-based processing plants, with a combined investment of more than P1 billion, will start operations in Leyte before the year ends, said Philippine Coconut Authority regional manager Gildemeo Sinovas.

Sinovas named two of the new firms in Leyte as Tacloban Oil and IC Global.

Tacloban Oil has started construction of its facility in Tolosa town and will start operations by November at the latest, he said.

Sinovas placed the company's initial investment at P350 million.

Once operational, its daily output would reach 300 metric tons.

IC Global's investment, on the other hand, was estimated at between P500 million and P700 million.

The plant is expected to start operations in Barangay Cantidad of Baybay town by December this year.

Aside from a coconut oil mill, the company plans to set up processing units for coconut fiber and other coconut-based products.

Sinovas said PCA expected at least one more coconut processing plant to rise in Carigara, Southern Leyte by the end of the year.

Another company has likewise expressed plans to set up its own agri-based processing facility in Barangay Can-umpog in Ormoc City.

Aside from these new projects, Sinovas said other foreign investors called the PCA region-al office to signify their interest in investing in the resource industry in Eastern Visayas.

"They [foreign investors] saw that the supply [of coconut materials] is abundant here in the region[,]" he said.

A big group of Chinese businessmen coming from Beijing and Hong Kong will visit the region next week for a possible investment in a common-based industry in the region, Sinovas said.

The PCA regional manager disclosed that Biliran is Visayas, which has been the third in coconut-producing region in the country for several years now, is slowly moving up to coconut plant because of increased production.

According to Sinovas, the region has 669,000 hectares of coconut land that are planted to some 72 million coconut trees, 51 million of which are nut-bearing.

The PCA, in cooperation with the Department of Science and Technology, the Department of Agriculture and Cabinet officer for regional development Secretary Gabriel Claudio, will hold a one-day investors and producers forum on Oct. 23 to discuss industry concerns and opportunities.

BenQ Projects Sharp Images

BenQ MP510p
Php 46,888.00

BenQ MP620p
Php 54,888.00

BenQ MP720p
Php 69,888.00

FREE SHARP

BenQ Equipment Warranty

National Meat Inspection Service 34th Anniversary

MEAT SAFETY CONSCIOUSNESS WEEK 2006

October 16 - 20, 2006

Theme: "Konsumer, Industriya at Gobyerno...Produkto'y May Katiyakan Kung Sama-sama ang Ugnayan"

MESSAGES

Warmest greetings to the officials and staff of the National Meat Inspection Service (NMIS) as you hold your Meat Safety Consciousness Week (MSCW) in commemoration of your 34th Anniversary.

We can achieve a truly sustainable economic growth if we can enhance our trade and industry sector, which is hard hit by our meat industry. Your theme, "Konsumer, Industriya at Gobyerno... Produkto'y May Katiyakan Kung Sama-sama ang Ugnayan," sounds well of your commitment to ensure that consumers are always assured of quality and safe meat products.

I also commend your Meat Fair, Lottery Ask Around Search for Best Meat Establishment and other programs aimed at promoting and advancing the meat industry. These activities will surely contribute to giving our country a competitive edge in the global market. With your help, we can face the odds.

May you have a meaningful celebration. Mabuhay!

GLORIA MACAPAGAL ARROYO

I congratulate the men and women of the National Meat Inspection Service (NMIS) on the occasion of your 34th Anniversary and your celebration of Meat Safety Consciousness Week.

The theme, "Konsumer, Industriya at Gobyerno: Produkto'y May Katiyakan Kung Sama-sama ang Ugnayan," underscores the need for cooperation and unity as we work toward the attainment of our shared objectives.

It is time when the Philippine economy is starting to fall recovering and revenue mobilization and other trade- and guard-related measures are now in place.

Changes in consumer attitudes are driving the demand for greater assurance that food is safe to eat, and is of the best possible quality. To answer to this demand, the NMIS continuously monitors world-class meat processing establishments throughout the archipelago, and is now even strengthening the computerization of Filipino meat products by aggressively promoting Good Manufacturing Practices (GMP) and streamlining the implementation of Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Point (HACCP) programs.

The Department of Agriculture therefore commends the NMIS for its commitment and its endless service to the Filipino people, and pledges the agency's call for renewed vigilance and cooperation in the bid to ensure the health and welfare of consumers, fast and efficient!

Mabuhay kayong lahat!

DOMINGO P. PANGANIBAN
Secretary

Gov't and industry in unified effort to promote safe meat

THE NATIONAL MEAT INSPECTION SERVICE (NMIS) LED THE nationwide observance of Meat Safety Consciousness Week (MSCW) in cities and municipalities throughout this week. The double celebration kicks off today, October 16, 2006.

NMIS, which is mandated to spearhead the MSCW celebration, has lined up various activities for the week-long event, including Meat Fair, signing of new regulations, a series of Lottery-Ask and the NMIS Management Consultancy Conference.

Agriculture Secretary Domingo F. Panganiban leads this morning's ribbon-cutting ceremonies to formally open the Meat Fair at the NMIS New Conference Hall.

The theme of this year's celebration is "Konsumer, Industriya at Gobyerno: ...Produkto'y May Katiyakan Kung Sama-sama ang Ugnayan," which underscores the importance of the unified effort forged by major stakeholders of the meat industry to promote the safety of meat and meat products.

The emergence of food-safety related risks posed by pathogenic microorganisms, chemical substances, and environmental hazards in the food supply are considered as the primary dangers that consumers encounter. Although many countries are increasingly focusing in combating hazards in meat, a lot of consumers are still vulnerable to the dangers of unsafe meat.

This week-long observance should drum up public awareness of the importance to public health of safe meat and meat products. It also emphasizes the crucial role of the meat industry and the prime mission of meat inspection work in ensuring clean meat for the consuming public.

Crucial Role

Food industry management, whether large industries or small and medium-scale firms, are now realizing that their main concern is not profit but the responsibility of providing safe food to their customers. Indeed, everyone who processes or prepares food must be responsible for the safety of that food.

Most establishments today are keen in adopting the Hazard Analysis Critical Control Point (HACCP) program, a preventive-oriented strategy being implemented by the NMIS. Though it does not guarantee absolute safety in meat and meat products, it reduces the risk to the barest minimum.

With HACCP in place, the critical points in food preparation, where things can go wrong, are identified and closely monitored to minimize the risk of producing a hazardous product. HACCP can be implemented at all levels of food preparation and processing, from a micro establishment to a large-scale enterprise.

There are now 72 meat establishments all throughout the country that are HACCP certified. Meat and meat products coming from these establishments are certified safe and free from any hazardous substances.

The Executive Director's Report

Dr. Mundo S. Manantan, Officer-in-Charge, Office of the Executive Director, NMIS, said the NMIS is working not only to make Philippine meat and meat products competitive in the world market. The Philippines is also eyeing the rich European Union market as the next destination of its meat and meat products. According to Dr. Manantan, a technical working group has been formed to oversee the requirements needed for the opening up of export initiatives in the EU.

Below are excerpts from the Executive Director's Report.

The production of safe meat for consumers is the most important responsibility of NMIS. As of September 2006, there are 324 meat establishments accredited by the National Meat Inspection Service:

- **Slaughterhouse – 91**
- **Poultry Dressing Plant- 65**
- **Meat Processing Plant- 111**
- **Cold Storage – 41**
- **Meat Cutting Plant- 13**

The NMIS is very active in the surveillance and monitoring and control of "Spot Meat" or meat that came from illegally slaughtered animals. For 2005, NMIS, in tandem with the Local Government Units, confiscated and disposed of 15,218 kilograms of "hot meat." As of September this year, there are already 13,481 kilograms of "hot meat" seized and disposed.

Formulation of policies and guidelines on all matters pertaining to meat inspection and meat hygiene in a manner of importance to NMIS. Currently, there are four regulations being drafted to regulate meat safety and hygiene namely:

- **National Veterinary Drug Residue Program**
- **Guidelines on Prohibiting of Feeding of Food Animals**
- **Meat Establishment Improvement Program**
- **Guidelines on Pre-Border Measures for Export of Meat to the Philippines**

Special Thanks to:

PUREFOODS HORMEL

CHICKEN STATION

MONTEREY

Meats You Can Trust

MACHINE

Ligo

Quality Products

Greetings!
ELDON INDUSTRIAL CORPORATION

Meat Importers & Traders Association (MITA)

BUSINESS

OUTSTANDING QUEZON CITY BUSINESSMAN. Business tycoon and industrialist Lucio C. Tan (left) receives the Outstanding Businessman Award for 2006 from the Quezon City government during its Gawad Parangal rites coinciding with the city's 87th founding anniversary. Recognized for his business enterprises, employment generation and contributions to charitable causes and community service, Tan was given the award by Quezon City Mayor Feliciano Belmonte (second from left) and Quezon City Treasurer Victor Endrigo.

RP poised for higher growth in '07, UBS says

By Doris C. Dumlao

THE PHILIPPINES IS POISED FOR HIGHER economic growth next year as a recovering budget deficit paves the way for higher public infrastructure spending and foreign direct investment, according to UBS Investment Research.

In a global equity research dated Oct. 12, UBS said the benefits of tough fiscal measures taken this year would bear more fruit in 2007.

"A lower budget deficit on higher revenues and lower interest payments on its debt could allow government to channel more funds to pump-priming," said the UBS report authored by analyst Jody Santiago.

The UBS report said the country could post

Investment firm cites fiscal gains

a higher gross domestic product growth of 5.6 percent next year from about 5.2 percent this year, while market earnings were seen rising 17 percent in 2007.

Possible drivers include higher property sales bookings, lower bank provisioning and a possible uptick in consumption spending, partly aided by election spending," the report said.

These positive factors, UBS said, could help drive up the Philippine Stock Exchange composite index to 3,200.

"Despite the 8.5-percent rise in PSEI[illegible] since July, we think that market remains attractive in light of our expected 2007 market earnings growth of 17 percent versus history's cyclical valuations," UBS said.

Its top stock picks were Philippine Long Distance Telephone Co., SM Investments, Megaworld Corp and First Gen.

"We are overweight on property conglomerates and telecommunications," UBS said. "We upgrade consumer to neutral on increasing purchasing power from lower inflation and downgrade utilities to underweight stability on our cautious stance on regulated electric utilities," UBS added.

7.0% FIXED GUARANTEED TAX FREE

Open a PSBank Prime Time Deposit now!

- Affordable for a minimum of PhP 50,000
- 1-year placement
- Enjoy monthly interest earnings

Get it now at any PSBank branch.

PSBank Prime TIME DEPOSIT

GOLDEN TRIANGLE

RP, Taiwan, China growth area pushed

By Ronnel W. Domingo

FILIPINO-CHINESE BUSINESSMEN HAVE proposed the establishment of a growth area that links the Philippines, Taiwan and southeastern China in a bid to stimulate partnerships among firms and harness the comparative advantages of the three economies.

Francis Chua, president of the Federation of Filipino-Chinese Chamber of Commerce, said the idea was broached during the Philippine Investment Forum held recently in Xiamen City.

"The reaction is positive, but it has to be a policy among the private sectors," Chua said. "However, this needs support from the government to make it realizable."

He explained that such a "Golden Triangle" would be beneficial to all parties and was appropriate considering that Beijing was looking at Southeast Asia as an area where it needed to establish economic leadership.

"The proposal is very bold in that this would bring to the Philippines as a factor to the joint development of the Chinese and Taiwanese economies," Chua said.

"The Golden Triangle would be a boost to the development of China's west Taiwan front area in line with their unification efforts," he added.

The growth area would specifically link Taiwan and the Philippines to China's southeastern provinces of Fujian, on the western part of Taiwan Strait.

Fujian has attracted much investments from Taiwan, especially in Xiamen City—also known as Amoy—which is the counterpart of Taiwan's Kaohsiung and the Philippines' Subic special economic zones.

The PFCCCI chief said further that the growth area would synergize Taiwan's manufacturing sector, the Philippines' resources such as managerial personnel, and China's labor and consumer market.

"We will bring this up with the Chinese government officials when President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo makes a state visit to Beijing," Chua said.

The Philippines is engaged in a trade liberalization arrangement with China through a framework pact on an Association of Southeast Asian Nations-China Comprehensive Economic Cooperation.

Under this framework, Manila had agreed with Beijing to reduce tariffs on about 2[illegible] products through an Early Harvest Program.

On the other hand, the country is developing with Taiwan the Kaohsiung-Subic-Clark growth corridor, linking the productive potentials of the three economies.

Gateway Garden Heights

33-storey Hi-Level Residential Condominium
EDSA corner Pioneer Street
Mandaluyong City

Come and Join our
OPEN HOUSE
October 28
10 AM - 6 PM
Gateway Garden Heights
MODEL UNITS
3F Robinsons Place Pioneer Mall

Enjoy the Convenience
OF LIVING BESIDE THE Mall

Nothing makes condo living a greater privilege than being beside everything you need. At Gateway Garden Heights, living, working and enjoyment are right at your doorstep. Enjoy Gateway Garden Heights' convenient location beside Robinsons Place Pioneer Mall. Strategically located along EDSA and MRT, this self-contained community is your gateway to prominent Business Districts like Ortigas, Makati and Fort Bonifacio Global City.

Get the most out of condo living. Enjoy the lifestyle community with all that you can have in Gateway Garden Heights.

GATEWAY GARDEN HEIGHTS
ROBINSONS PLACE PIONEER MALL
MRT
E D S A
SHAW BLVD.

ROBINSONS LAND CORPORATION
The Property Developer of Choice

636-0888
0922-8380888

KICK OUT GOUT !!!

MONDAY, OCTOBER 16, 2006 PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER B2

BUSINESS Monday

TWINHEAD ₱69900

Revisiting economic group that is BIMP-Eaga

Growth signs showing nine years after it was born

By Allan Manal
Inquirer Mindanao

MANADO, INDONESIA—When the Asian financial crisis struck in 1997, the fledgling sub-regional economic cooperation between Brunei, Indonesia, Malaysia and the Philippines (BIMP) started to falter.

It had been barely three years since talks aimed at accelerating the growth of the less frontier areas developed areas were initiated.

Under the East Asian Growth Area (Eaga) concept, the provinces of Sabah, Sarawak and Labuan in Malaysia and Brunei Darussalam, would become closer trade and investment relationships.

Former President Fidel V. Ramos, whose administration vigorously pushed the idea of closer ties with the four landlocked Asian neighbors, had promised that the Eaga concept would result in economic growth for Mindanao.

For Ramos, economic growth in Mindanao would also become an effective tool against the Muslim insurgency that has been dogging the Manila government for more than three decades.

Then the currency crisis hit and BIMP-Eaga was placed on the back burner.

"Nabawya kaysa wara. (They went their separate ways)," says Jose Rhoel Sta. Ana, the current Philippine special envoy to the BIMP-Eaga, describing how members of the subregional cooperation believed at the onset of the financial crisis.

Also say by that time, nobody was talking anymore about BIMP-Eaga, once hailed as the answer to the woes of the least developed areas of Southeast Asia.

"During the time of Erap at Joseph Estrada, it was totally forgotten," he said.

When President Macapagal-Arroyo came to power in 2001, the idea of revitalizing the Eaga concept surfaced.

The Mindanao Economic Development Council (Medco) based in Davao City started to pick up the pieces of what was left of the Eaga concept.

Networking with counterparts in the three other members of the growth polygon, Medco started to organize trade missions.

By that time, businessmen from General Santos City, who have previously started talks with their counterparts in Indonesia, were making a bold decision.

Mini successes

One group, led by Oldeng Syson Boong Teng, manufacturer of canned tuna, an hour and a half flight out from here.

Boong, strategically located in the rich fishing grounds of Indonesia, looked like most promising place for a tuna cannery plant.

"We exchanged visits several times with our Indonesian partners, practically the end of what we have been doing before in the Eaga," Teng says.

Three years ago, the partnership materialized and PT Sinar Pure Foods International was born.

With $7.7 million in capital, Teng's Signal Marine Venture and its Indonesian partners took over the ailing Pure Foods facilities in a 4.5-hectare area in Bitung Manado.

Initially more than $1 million in additional capital to revive the former Pure Foods business, SMV and its Indonesian partners brought additional machinery and improved existing ones, such as a fishmeal factory, an ice plant and a cold storage facility.

PT Sinar's Bitung-based capacity was raised to 140 metric tons a day although production was only currently at 25-40 MT a day.

"We still have problems with the supply but we are trying to address that," Teng says.

PT Sinar markets its canned tuna products in Europe (55 percent), the United States (40 percent) and Japan (5 percent).

Last year, PT Sinar's revenues were $20 million, making it the second biggest tuna exporting company in Indonesia.

"We are currently developing our Middle East market," he says.

Teng says his group's vision was not only to provide world-class products to consumers but also to generate livelihood and employment under the Eaga concept.

On the Indonesian side, PT Sinar's investments has grown and 1,000 jobs in the factory alone.

"There is also the effect of the activities on

Maybank, One of Asia's Best Banks Financial Times, 2004
• Over $50 billion in group assets • Among the top banks in the world
Maybank

Country above self

THE STATISTICS THAT I WILL CITE IN my message did not come from me or the MAP. They came from very well-respected and credible organizations like the World Bank, the United Nations and The Economist publication.

We are nonetheless compiled to ask ourselves—why should we care about those statistics compiled and interpreted by these foreign entities? Unfortunately, we have no choice but to care and to care enough to do something. International perception, as translated into economic ratings, are critical economic issues in the decision of foreign capital to flow into any country. The need to compete and prove ourselves over and over again to gain, and retain, a piece of the global economic pie.

Emerging markets, of which our country is a part, are pitching an ever increasing role in the world economy. At the Economist chart shows, emerging market countries, which are home to 84 percent of the world's population, contribute over 30 percent of the world's output of goods and services.

What the data suggests is that emerging markets are no longer simply manufacturing hubs for advanced economies such as the United States, Japan and Western Europe. With the proliferation of high-speed data transfers and the dissolution of telecommunications costs, emerging markets provide business-critical services in the fields of research and development, finance, medicine, law, engineering—and the list grows.

24th largest economy

Indeed, by the World Bank's measure of Purchasing power Parity GDP, the Philippines is actually the world's 24th largest economy—considerably higher than its current-dollar GDP ranking of 50th.

Our place among the emerging markets is boosted by the export of services in the form of numerous call centers and BPOs that have become the fastest-growing employers of our young graduates. Owing to rich national good-will for business persons outsourcing and our relative advantage in terms of skilled workers, we are today the world's 4th largest exporter of IT-enabled services behind India, Canada and Ireland.

Over the years, however, the questions that Filipino policymakers, entrepreneurs and business-persons shall have to wrestle with are these: what role shall the Philippines play among emerging economies? How do we meet the tragic decline in our ranking in the last 40 years?

In 1960—or 46 years ago—GDP per capita in the Philippines was higher than in Thailand, Taiwan, South Korea, Indonesia and Myanmar. Today per capita GDP is higher in Taiwan, South Korea and Thailand. Meanwhile both Taiwan and South Korea are already considered Newly Industrialized Economies.

During the past few years, we also have been held to ransom by our country's credit rating, another measure of the credit risk perception by credit rating agencies. Standard and Poors rates the Philippines a "BB-," whereas Taiwan is rated "AA-," South Korea is "A," and Thailand is "BBB+."

MAPping the Future

Evelyn R. Singson

Clearly, these countries have come a very long way from where they were 46 years ago. Today they are nearly on par with the developed economies of Western Europe. In contrast, our performance over the same span may have be described as "mediocre."

Recently, the World Bank published its annual "Doing Business" survey, ranking 175 countries in terms of how the regulatory and legal environment in these countries encourage investors and business.

Unfortunately for the Philippines, it fell by 5 places in a one-year period...from 121st place in 2005 to 126th place in 2006. So, by the World Bank's reckoning, it is actually easier to do business these days in Lebanon (96), Bosnia and Herzegovina (97), Vietnam (104) and Iran (128) than it is in the Philippines.

The "Doing Business" survey actually contains a set of 10 sub-rankings, among these is how the country's regulations protect investors. Here, the Philippines is ranked 43rd—much worse than its overall ranking. What the survey seems to suggest is that shareholders have better rights protection in countries such as Timor-Leste, Belarus and Uzbekistan.

The Philippines received a better ranking in terms of the ease of paying taxes, ranking 106th. But by this measure, the World Bank says that it is easier to pay taxes in the African nations of Cambodia, Eritrea and Niger than it is in the Philippines.

The Philippines is in the middle of the pack or even in the upper third of countries when it comes to enforcing contracts, trading across borders and registering property.

We should pay particularly close attention to our rankings in enforcing contracts since it greatly affects the marketability of our nation as a place for foreign direct investment. In 1965, we are ranked higher than Taiwan, Malaysia and Mexico but lower than Thailand and South Korea, which are ranked 44th and 17th respectively.

Aggressive response

In any case, what do these survey results say about our competitiveness? What has been done in our recent history that has given rise to the perception of somehow that business conditions in our archipelago are so dismal? More

SEE MAP, B6-4

Revisiting the economic group . . .

From page B6-1

other industries such as sugar cane production.

"We lend fishermen, we also help them by buying their catch," he says.

But what about the Philippine side?

Teng says about 80 percent of PT Sinar's raw materials come from Sentosa Limbo City.

"Filipino fishermen contribute to the majority of our fish supply. Where the financial crisis hit Asia in 1997, the fishing industry in General Santos City was heavily affected. Even in the following years, it hardly recovered," Teng says.

Marlin Tan of the Union of Marine fishing industry association told PT Sinar's business in Bitung has restored the security and continuity of the fishing sector.

Teng says PT Sinar also imports some of its packaging supplies from Mindanao.

"We still lack supplies for packaging materials and spare parts and this causes cost-leaks because they are sourced elsewhere," he says.

Teng says it would be better if investments in these areas would be made, not only to help PT Sinar lower the cost, but also to help generate livelihood.

A few metres away from PT Sinar, tuna canning company PT Samudera Indonesia stands on a 3.3-hectare area.

Like PT Sinar, the Filipino owners of PT Samudera came in Bitung about three years ago under the BIMP-Eaga concept.

Taking over the existing facilities of a company producing canned vegetables such as asparagus, the General Santos-based Samudera Group of Companies infused more capital to enrich its canning plant.

"We use 100 percent Filipino-owned," Gary Domoloto, PT Samudera's operations officer, says.

Like PT Sinar, Domoloto's company requires no purchase to the United States.

"We are also trying to source more fish because we cannot accommodate our capacity because of under supply," he says.

Currently, PT Samudera gets half of its supply from General Santos City.

"We want to see an increase in the future. Our fishermen do not have the capability right now because of lack of fishing boats," he explains.

Reviving talks

The apparent success of the two companies under the Eaga concept has encouraged government officials to revive talks on economic cooperation.

Abu says upcoming talks—including the one scheduled at the sidelines of the three summit in Cebu this year—between Eaga players would center on "doable" things such as trading linkages.

"This is a good start," he comments.

Sarangani Gov. Miguel Dominguez says he wanted the success of the big businesses replicated, but he wants small and medium enterprise (SMEs) in his province to get into the game.

"The backbone of every economy is the SME sector. We want to tap their potential to improve our local economy," he says.

Dominguez accompanied the largest delegation of Mindanao businessmen to Indonesia last Sept. 21.

The group included the Lubrador couple, whose Cassia's company produces herbal-based beauty products.

Bel Christine Philimana, project manager of the German Technical Cooperation, says that while the idea of SMEs being involved in the BIMP-Eaga effort was laudable, it was equally important to bring in more big players.

GTZ is an agency funded by the German government that provides technical support. It started providing technical assistance to the SME-Eaga concept in January 2005.

"I am not a big fan of say San Miguel, but we need to have somebody lead the efforts," Wildmon says.

Wildmon says although there have been previous talks between BIMP-Eaga players, much still needs to be done to ensure the success of the idea.

He says one of these was for the major players to have a roadmap—a common goal and to find ways and means to achieve that goal.

"There should also be more commitment on the side of the governments involved," he says.

Philimana says the problem that GTZ encounter is the resources. A cooperation effort was that people making the decisions were not the ones actually implementing them.

"It should be localized," he says.

Dominguez could see agreement.

He says if the success of the economic cooperation was to be ensured, local government units should be more involved and committed to the success of BIMP-Eaga.

Defying gravity in restaurant industry

Three success lessons for a dining place

By Eduardo A. Morato Jr.
Professor, Asian Institute of Management

SOMETHING IS FISHY AT SOMEdini' Friday. The Eastwood eatery a defying the law of gravity in the restaurant industry. What goes up, refuses to come down. A business or two in the food business can be drawn from this popular dining destination.

Prior to Eastwood City's opening in 2001, a few bars and restaurants were already emerging outside in the Libis area and E.S. Magsaysay lured customers to its now-urban development center with several enticements like free parking, entertainment events, varied food offerings, and a captive community of residential dwellers and office workers. Eastwood boomed as the locus "to place."

Four years down the road, the Eastwood hitch began to fizzle as competition in neighboring districts attracted the fickle customers. The Peninsula in Greenhills, Tandeviria, Mercato Walk, SM Hypermart and Fort Bonifacio enticed segments of the Eastwood market with their different appeal. It did not help that parking lots gave way to the construction of new condominiums at Eastwood. Parking fees were charged. Marketing events declined somewhat. Traffic worsened as U.S. demonstrations drawn. Beer prices were set as a minimum of P45 per bottle. All this produced less customer count.

Somethin' Fishy had to find new bait for fishing. One lastresort opportunity presented itself. The call centers located in the area provided customers with strange working hours and even stranger eating habits. The restaurant opened its doors to tired and hungry night jobbers. It offered not-all-you-can breakfast buffets from five to ten in the morning for only P88. What Somethin' Fishy lost in price, it recovered in volume. Gave us, the restaurant reminded this offering from midnight to 10 a.m. A new "school of fish" for at the bait. There were "after gourmet" diners gorging food after their late beginnings or merry makings. Long queues of off-beat but tasty-seeking customers swarmed the off-tangent restaurant operating at unsocial hours. Somethin' Fishy found the formula for defying gravity.

Of the 40 or so casual dining and seafood restaurants in Eastwood, some 10 to 15 have closed down. However, there is hope for fashioned locators. A food is rising inside the complex. More call centers are coming in. Condominiums are being built. The tenants move current numbers. To the patient and persevering will belong the restaurant spoils. Meanwhile, Somethin' Fishy is plotting strategies for its food lunch and dinner markets. It has come up with Filipino "hungry buster platters" and a "seventh-ish festival at 10 percent off. Combo meals for four persons, with seven to eight viands, are priced between P499 and P595. Beers places at P150 for lunch and beginning servings at dinner for P275 round up their price arsenals.

An interview with Jose Policarpio, manager of Somethin'

DAYANG BUI

BY-BAIT Somethin' Fishy has to price, to succeed in returns.

The Jaguar X-type Estate.
Get it for as low as
Php 275,000*.

It's time to succumb to its seduction.
At 10% downpayment,
your luxury is fulfilled.
Receive yours now.

Desired by many.
Exclusive by choice.

*Subject to bank approval.
From October 1 to November 30, 2006 only.

100% GORGEOUS. 10% DOWN.

JAGUAR

Showrooms: [illegible]

SALES HELP LINE: [illegible]

Get ready to relax
THE GLOBAL LEADER IS PROTECTING YOUR IT SYSTEMS.

100% of Fortune 500 companies protected by Emerson Network Power
You can trust us to bring this level of reliability all the way to YOU

For Sales Enquiry
Contact Our Distributor

LAMCO

Emerson Network Power
Product Helpdesk (24x7)

MANAGEABILITY | MANAGED RACK SYSTEMS | LIEBERT MODULAR UPS | LIEBERT RACK MOUNT UPS | LIEBERT DESKTOP UPS

Emerson Network Power - Always ready to protect your business critical systems with our integrated management and monitoring solutions

EMERSON

EMERSON. CONSIDER IT SOLVED™

'Look at opportunities in infrastructure programs'

Tessie Sy urges businessmen to look beyond the obstacles and invest in RP

IT IS REMARKABLE THAT WE are able to gather today to discuss these forum ideas. More than a year ago, many of us would have been cynical and skeptical. If you recall at that time, our country was gripped by major crises and government finances were in precarious. Major ratings agencies had downgraded the Philippines' sovereign debt. Total debt was rising and borrowing costs were soaring. Our country was facing severe political tests—impeachment, coup and anti-government rallies. Our peso was weakening and stock market was in decline. There was a palpable sense of despair and helplessness.

Remarkably, we as a nation were to have wisely stepped up. In 2005, President Gloria Arroyo pointed the need to address fiscal issues as the immediate call, and the problem of public debt and deficit has been slowly receding, ever since. The government took drastic fiscal measures to rein in spending and pass significant revenue programs, the most notable being the Revised VAT Law, the government is well poised to achieve its objective of balancing its budget by 2008, with public debt has fallen relative to GDP, and the share of debt service in public spending has been gradually reduced.

The BSP reportedly expects a formal credit upgrade in the coming months, while the stock market index has swung all time highs. Our peso, too, appreciated by ten percent, or first in the recent that our most problem may now be how not to unduly penalize our exporters. Moreover, the price of oil is slowly coming down, the investors' confidence has gradually returned and the influx of foreign exchange from OFW has steadily increased.

Nowadays, Filipinos have shown a maturity to temper their response to political events. Regardless of their political views, they have mostly reserved violence and extra constitutional means to assess political ends. Our president, Mrs. Gloria Arroyo, has clear her identified the most crucial economic agenda for the country and pursued it single-mindedly. Though not everyone will agree with the details, not one will dispute the fact that the administration has

SY

avoided a financial crisis, stabilized the economy and improved the investors' confidence by instituting fiscal reforms. It laid-out those reforms in the midst of grave political challenge.

Recently, President Arroyo emphasized the need for catching up on the infrastructure program. After last week's typhoons, I think we all realized the consequence of infrastructural breakdown, and were confronted by the fragility of the country's infrastructure in the havoc wrought by Typhoon "Milenyo." Well, power supply interruptions, telecommunication breakdowns, the transport system, potable water even all affected. These, along with terrigation and sewerage are all vital in the continuing growth of commerce and industries, as well as improving our lives. Creating, expanding and ensuring a high quality of such facilities is logically the priority, if the country is to achieve higher growth. And as investors, as we all know, is an indispensable minimum.

During her last State of the Nation Address, the President outlined the infrastructures for the super regions in order to specific economic activities. These projects, I understand, will not be undertaken by the national government alone, but in cooperation with the private sector and local government. The private sector can be enticed to invest, if a fair return is possible.

We see visible examples of this in telecommunications, where

LOOK ALSO

Country above self

From page B1-1

importantly, what can we do to avert this trend—to send the world the signal that "the Philippines is here and, yes, we are open for your business?"

Make no mistake: the forces of globalization—the latest movement of manufactured goods, services, ideas and capital—demand a pro-active and aggressive response. Our failure to acknowledge and act on its inevitability will make our nation behind, or even worse, consign it to irrelevance.

Therefore maintaining our competitiveness—our edge, as it were—is not simply the theme of this year's BSP CEO Conference but the challenge of our times. If we do not at least own the seeds that shall ensure our competitiveness in the years ahead, future generations of Filipinos will look upon us with great resentment for our neglect.

Of course, as many of you are aware, much of the country's business environment is determined by our elected representatives and our least things that, as businesspersons, we have very little direct control over.

That said, perhaps it is time for us businesspersons to take a more pro-active role in helping elect the right people into public office. If our political environment is perceived as insensitive or unfriendly to business, much of our endeavours efforts will not bear fruit. It is necessary that the public and private sectors work in tandem and cooperate effectively because it is only through our combined efforts that our country will move one of its underserved bottom place.

In fact, there are good signs that our economy is improving. Inflation has been declining and that economic growth has been resilient. Net foreign portfolio investments and OFW remittances have enabled the peso to appreciate by 6.1 percent against the US dollar (last he (this year.

Furthermore, corporate profits grew exceptionally in the first half of the year and the national government has been successful in keeping its finances under control. All of these developments have led investment banks such as Merrill Lynch and Lehman Brothers to express confidence that the Philippines is on the right track.

Indeed, there is no doubt in my mind that the Philippines can excel and lead on a global stage.

For instance, Filipino telecommunications firms are regarded with great respect around the world for the way that they have advanced the business model for mobile communications through their innovations in pre-paid credits and mobile e-commerce.

Moreover, the overseas Filipino worker is considered among the hardest-working and most competent in the world. Our nurses, teachers, seafarers and other professionals are in demand in the international markets. But to sustain this demand requires that we keep our reputation as a dependable and credible supplier of world class talents. We should condemn those who seek short-term gains at the expense of our country's reputation.

Interestingly, while we do not consider them as overseas workers, men like Manny Pangilinan, Manny Pangilinan and Efren "Butz" Reyes, to name a few of our more famous fellow Filipinos, earn much of their income from overseas sources. They bring credit to our nation as world-class talents and their successes in various fields provide strong examples for future generations of Filipinos to emulate.

It is our hope that the businesses today will business and bring your knowledge of management practice to the global level so that you can use these, with great success, in your respective organizations and answer the challenge of our times.

I wish to leave you with a brief story.

Recently, some Filipinos undertook to climb Mt. Everest and successfully their success has generated great interest in the history of the Everest Expedition. Certainly, anyone with even a passing knowledge of the Everest Expedition is now familiar with the names of Sir Edmund Hillary and Tenzing Norgay, the two men who reached the summit first.

However, fewer people can probably name the leader of the successful expedition of 1953.

His name was Col. John Hunt. It was his meticulous planning, together with the generous team spirit that he fostered throughout the expedition that enabled Hillary and Norgay to reach the summit. Many prior expeditions had failed upon this point because lesser men chase personal glory rather than the common good.

The same is true in the world of business. 2006's theme "Country Above Self" is the only mindset that will enable our country to achieve and sustain global competitiveness that will bring prosperity to those who participate in the production of wealth.

Speech delivered during the 6th BSP International CEO Conference on Oct. 11, 2006. Tessie Sy is president of the Philippine association of the Philippines and effusion Services Inc. Feedback at inquirer@globenet.com.ph)

Share the news.
Be an Inquirer.
INQUIRER

THE COLOSSEUM in Iloilo, home of the new line of premium ovens.

Tecnogas makes a comeback, goes for the premium market

AFTER A FEW YEARS OF silence, the known kitchen brand now Tecnogas returns to the country.

Tecnogas is adopting a new look, a more advanced technological platform and a determination to conquer the heights of the premium market.

Unlike its forerunner, which was manufactured in the Philippines, the new Tecnogas is 100 percent made and imported from Italy. Under the control of Tecnogas Italy which belongs in the Antonio Merloni Group of Companies that acquired the brand, the design of new Tecnogas has been significantly enhanced and its product features perfected.

Following the tradition of Italian quality, technology and durability, the new Tecnogas showcases technological design control and attention to safety and quality.

Every Tecnogas product is modular in nature to accommodate design variations without compromising international safety standards.

Tecnogas uses AA laser-acid treated which prevents oven corrosion and the induction of a new fan-cooling system prevents the oven from over heating. The new Tecnogas also features a multi-burner conversion screw so that baking setting and a safety device that will automatically shut-off the unit once the LPG leaks by blocking the gas tubing connection in case of gas leakage. The new Tecnogas also comes with an ignition timer which automatically shuts off the unit after its usage whether cooking or baking.

Tecnogas manufactures include thermal fan oven with the 100 percent blue flame which in turn minimizes the flow of gas, as 18/10 stainless steel with 100 percent rust proofing and sparing every model with lifted aluminum burners, the No. 1 brand of burners in the world.

With its features and the famous brand name, the new Tecnogas is now positioned as a premium product that aims to serve the upper B to A markets. By positioning the products in the premium segment, the company expects to also tap the brand's mass base which aspires to have the best in life.

It is easily made by Repco in 2006, the Philippines ranked one of the highest among Asian countries in terms of aspirations. That's why Tecnogas is confident with its new position.

Facing the challenge of distributing the repositioned brand made popular in the 80's by the "humbling homebuilder"—Antonio but good household stars of the then popular sitcom Chick to Chick, the exclusive distributorship of Tecnogas was officially awarded to Allied Distribution in November 2005.

Allied Distribution, a company that has been in the distribution of consumer electronics products for the last five years and has built a stable and extensive dealer network around the country, is now in the process of different training and selecting dealers that can make sure Tecnogas break into the premium market. The plan is to slowly grow the brand and corner 1.25-percent share of the total premium market for burners and ranges in 2007.

caption

'Look opportunities . . .

From page B1-1

senior supply and toll highways. It would be good if the local government would expand most of the taxes on infrastructure to be used primarily by it—you know, it would also be good if the national and local government heed the need of private sectors for clear and consistent rules regarding infrastructure projects. If we look back, some of the bad experiences of private sectors in infrastructure projects have stemmed either from lack of prioritizing by the government, or lack of clear rules. Sometimes, the government goes back on its plan or changes specifications. In some cases, different parts or branches of government do not see eye to eye and give conflicting signals about particular investments; while in others, political considerations get in the way and are allowed to distort infrastructure priorities.

Now, President Arroyo's focus on the infrastructures' building as the immediate task this time. This request rank must be necessary, pitched it motivated enough are all to be pursued. He need not already agree on details, but as long as we are broadminded enough to consider good ideas from wherever they originate, we can transcend our target dividends to the Philippines' economy and managed to survive many of us are still in the country today. The government sees the urgency of the infrastructure right now, and understands how it can help, but the implementation and social impact of these programs. So what better time than now to listen and look at these business opportunities?

Opening remarks of IM International One-vice chair Tessie Sioson in the forum on infrastructure Forum last Oct. 11

Dropout raises hogs, earns big bucks, shares secrets

By Yolanda Sotelo-Fuertes
Inquirer Northern Luzon

BALALONG, PANGASINAN— Some children here who are unable to finish their schooling are encouraged by their parents to just enter hogs to have a source of income.

A Chinese-Filipino from Bulacan, who dropped out of high school because of poverty, enjoys rights and now owns one of the biggest hog farms in Northern Luzon.

Uraldo Uy, a Bengalanian based member, says he dropped out of Far Eastern University after two years when he was only 16. At 18, he was already working as a salesman of a commodity company in Metro Manila.

"I learned to drive when I was 18, as I became the driver, salesman and delivery boy of the company I worked for. I was on duty to become the sales manager," Uy says.

But it seems bound me that he was a high school dropout. Thus, while he was doing well as a salesman, he was taken out of the race.

Chicharon

"I recognized since that and put up a small chicharon (fried pork) factory in Malabon. My father Ilarra Uy, one of the early Chinese who migrated to the Philippines, and the other family members were in charge of the production while I sold the product in the Bicol region and in Metro Manila.

The business was good in Bataan and Uy stayed there most of the time until he met Myrna, also a Chinese-Filipino, and they got married in 1978.

Eight years later, Uy decided to put up a chicharon business in a rented 2,000-sq.m. lot in Barangay Bagbaguin in Bindalonan town.

His wife Myrna operated a canteen in Baguio to augment the income derived from the chicharon business.

As the business was doing well, a problem emerged. The neighbors complained about the smell of cooking grease products from the chicharon factory.

DAWALO Uy with son, Dr. Ronald Uy

Uy said there the reason producers would make good food for hogs, which many raised in their backyards. That solved the problem as the neighbors took issues getting the waste products. He studied pigpens cropped up. The neighbors quarrelled among themselves about the waste materials, two of whom stabbed each other."

Going into

Uy decided to buy 10 piglets to consume the waste products. Then he bought 20 more, then a 100.

As the number of the pigs increased, he went to Baguio City to collect waste foods from his wife's canteen.

He also collected "leaning lahar" from other canteens in the city to feed to the pigs. "I'm able to save up on foods," he says.

Uy has several hog breeders and eventually his hog raising business grew in such proportions that today several buildings house his more than 1,000 breeders in a his current area in the village.

It is also one of the most modern commercial hog farms in the country, with automatic feeders, a health program and a right biosecurity to prevent bacteria and viruses from wreaking havoc on the farm.

The farm has become a family cut-pasture.

A veterinarian son, Donald, manages the farm. Another son Dennis, mans the office. Daniel is in charge of marketing expenditures of feeds. His other son, Darwin, works as a resident doctor at St. Luke's Medical Center in Quezon City.

Most of the farm's workers live inside the compound with their families. They are provided with free housing and food.

Pollution control

The family's wastes are collected in six ponds and used to fertilize the nora fields. "The manure is applied on the field, killing the weeds there, after which the land is plowed," Uy says.

Some 120,000 tons of corn are harvested from the corn fields, and the harvest is processed into hog feeds.

"We are not high-tech yet when it comes to corn production. But we intend to hire an agriculturist," he says.

His father Ilarra, now 87, also maintains a vegetable garden from which the family harvests vegetables for their meals.

Many people at his in Bagac, City come to the farm to ask for the farm wastes to use as fertilizer, he says.

Uy, president of the Northern Luzon Hog Raisers Cooperative, adopted Sen. Manuel Villar's access to success: Hard work and perseverance.

Another tip he readily shares is: When one puts up a business, the owner should not depend on it for the daily expenses, especially during the business' early days.

"In my case, there was the farmgate factory and my wife's canteen from which we derived the family's expenses. Others may try to find employment until the income from the business is stable enough to support the family," he says.

Other advice he shares is: Do not spend more than you earn. Discipline yourself. Do not gamble.

He narrates a story of a couple who had a booming piggery business. Later, the husband got hooked on gambling. The business collapsed.

Uy's livestock factory closed in 1988 when his stock it.

By then, the 10-piglet backyard piggery venture to maximize the waste products of a backyard factory had grown into the biggest hog farm in Northern Luzon and was big enough to support the family.

It was also big enough to support the couple's six daughters, one son and his son at least 60 students through college. Two of these scholars are doctors while others are nurses, engineers and teachers.

Helping coffee farmers for 20 years

THE INVERLIGHMENT OF THE Nestle Satellite Buying Stations in 1986 has benefited the Filipino coffee farmers.

Set up to key coffee-producing areas around the Philippines, these buying stations give them the opportunity to sell their crops at prevailing world market prices as well as provide them access to many services to Nestlé. The country's leading procurer of coffee.

Nescafé, Nestlé's coffee brand, sources its coffee from around 100,000 Filipino farmers and 300,000 coffee workers.

The establishment of the Nestlé Satellite Buying Stations is in line with the company's corporate business principle of obtaining raw materials directly from its sources, a practice that ensures beneficial to coffee farmers, the coffee farming industry and Nestlé.

Aside from providing coffee farmers the opportunity to sell their crops at prevailing world market prices, this direct procurement policy gives them the chance to learn of the latest quality and safety requirements of Nestlé. These then encourage them to achieve or maintain high-quality crop standards.

Being in close contact with Nestlé also allows them to benefit from the company's know-how in coffee planting and crop management.

In fact, the company established the Nestlé Experimental and Demonstration Farm (NEDF) in Davao to specifically address the need to train farmers on the proper way of growing coffee and provide them with high-yielding coffee planting materials. It currently provides 60 percent of all Robusta cuttings in the Philippines.

For Nestlé, meanwhile, this direct procurement policy gives them the opportunity to obtain coffee beans that meet its stringent quality and safety specifications as well as be in touch with the needs and concerns of the Filipino coffee farmers.

The success of the first Nestlé Satellite Buying Station in Davao in 1986 was followed by the establishment of other stations in other key coffee-producing cities and provinces in the country.

There are currently 13 satellite buying stations in the country. These include the ones in Bohol, Isabela, Zamboanga, Cotabato, Agusan del Sur, Palawan, Tagaytay, Negros, Bukidnon, Batangas, Cebu and Davao.

The Nestlé Satellite Buying Station is just one of the many programs Nestlé initiated to support Filipino coffee farmers' yield and income. It believes that helping improve their coffee farming methods and boosting their profits will result in an income and better supply of coffee in the country.

THE COFFEE firm sources its coffee from around 100,000 Filipino farmers and 300,000 coffee workers.

Defying gravity in restaurant . . .

From page B1-3

Fisby, yielded a demand estimate of P500 million for fast-casual restaurants in 2005. Eatwood has a large employee population of 13,221 from 197 companies. Twelve call centers provide the bulk of customers for the restaurant's profits. The future of Eatwood seems brighter than it is immediate past.

The restaurant and bar industry is subject to the whims of a market always on the lookout for "something new." When customers favor a place, it is hard to get them back unless fresh entertainment draws them back. Another "in" is a while, only to give way to the rejuvenated Greenbelt complex which nestled in the crowd from the adjacent Ayala as well. Greenbelt has become the diners' Mecca today, but there again, Greenbelt 3 Makati is not just the new "in place". What is going for it is Makati's large base of customers since the city is envied as the most densely populated office and residential center in the country. Makati was just waiting for Greenbelt to happen with a vengeance.

Lessons learned

So what are the lessons learned from the restaurant industry?

A large customer base is definitely essential.

More than that, there must be constant renewal and fresh excitement to entice the restless crowd. So building commercial centers, world-centered "destination" and "diversified" (e.g. parking diffusing traffic), especially if the base load is still small.

Finally, look for unusual market segments. (e.g. the "off-hour catering" or market "differentiators (e.g. fantastic customer relations). Continuously relevant and reputation the restaurant as often as necessary or as the wind shifts. The creative restaurant entrepreneur must wake up every morning to ask himself "creative" questions "how do I make myself classless today?"

Who is a leader?

FOR JOHN A. DALE DAVIDSON to pronounce, and, regardless of title or position, you can rise to influencer or more, is undaunted. Being reminded of this is sometimes the one thing it takes to inspire focus on the importance of what we do each day. Mark Sanborn, three-selling author of "The Fred Factor," a personal book, "You Don't Need a Title to Be a Leader," serves as such a reminder, inspiring you to reach your potential beyond title or position.

Please take a moment and enjoy a sample chapter of the book, which will be released later this month.

Who is a leader?
by Mark Sanborn

One day, my assistant informed me over the intercom, "There is a Cadet Green on line two. I think you'll want to talk to him."

That was my introduction to Cadet Alexis Green, US Air Force freshman.

The Air Force Academy had been in the papers a great deal lately for various challenges it was facing, and some of the recent news had been positive.

Alexis Green called me to tell me he had read my first book, "The Fred Factor." He believed the book offered a message that needed to be shared with the Academy. So he took the initiative to call me out of the blue to ask if I would be willing to come and speak. "I'm just a person who wants to make things better," he told me.

This unsurprised, self-driven cadet captivated by the challenge of connecting people he didn't know who he thought could help. He couldn't afford to pay the people he was contacting to appear. In fact, he actually had to get official approval for me to appear for him. Cadet Green didn't have to do that, but he was certainly clueless.

As a result of his bold request, both bestselling author Stephen Covey and I came to speak to the graduating class of freshmen cadets. Meeting en masse at the beat of the book who were determined to serve their country was a memorable experience, one that I will not soon forget.

People who lead—whether or not they have a title—strive to make things better.

We all want to have an impact on the world around us. We can search to be known elsewhere in life, but we don't can't control.

Part of growing up is figuring out how much influence we have over our environment, from person to friends. It can extend to events.

Our choice to life have a huge impact on the kind of education we get, the kinds of jobs we land, the relationships we develop and become involved in, and the quality of the lives we live. The desire to influence the world around us is what real leadership is all about.

Do you think you make a difference?

When you first look for the answer to the meaning, do you say to yourself, "Today, I'm going to change the world!"?

Probably not.

And yet we do change history every day, not just for ourselves but for our families, communities, employers, and country. Some of the ways are often changes are significant: landing a dream job, raising money for charity, helping to coach a youth soccer team. Others are small: letting someone accept ahead of us in traffic, taking an interest in a colleague who needs someone to listen, that none are trivial.

I'm not suggesting that simple acts of courtesy is void of them—unless consistent acts of leadership. Yet leaders, unskilled or otherwise, realize the extraordinary impact they can have on others and the world around them. They constantly choose to exercise their abilities, skills, and knowledge to help make a difference.

What is it you want?

Professor of sociology and speaker Tony Campolo claims that if you ask most parents what they want for their children, they will say they want their children to be happy.

Campolo goes on to say that he grew up in a home where his father didn't care if he was happy. "You see, his father wanted more for his children than just to be happy. He wanted each of them to be good, to be an ethical person who makes a positive contribution. Sometimes that requires hard work and self sacrifice, pushing another's needs ahead of your own. Those are things that might not, in the short term, make us "happy." But they do help us to do good and make a difference. Being happy is unavailable, but being good is truly attainable. It requires character, integrity, and perseverance.

Sometimes being "good" not shining high enough. At Jenks Middleton, the pastor of Moody Church in Los Angeles, said, "We spend so much time searching about our kids being good—not bossing the rules, getting into trouble, and basically behaving—that we often forget to instill in them to be great."

In fact, I believe our leadership as we are invited to by greatness than we are invited to others." There it is catch, though. We can't give what we don't have. We can't motivate, encourage, or harvest already occupied.

As a recent convention, a member of the association representing the every volunteered to work as bookstore manager and assist with everything that happened behind the scenes at the general sessions. Because Rob was busy preparing between general sessions, he gave up the chance to attend most of the sessions during the conference. He didn't receive any payment, other than the appreciation of the association leaders, and he still paid a full registration fee for his attendance.

He was an example of one of the many who serve as unsung leaders, who handle the necessary but often unglamorous jobs that somehow done.

Volunteers are important in high-profile tasks are rarely in short supply. While I don't want to overchange the importance of "the big chore," I am even more impressed by the leaders who know what must be done behind the scenes to make the big chore happen. Then take on difficult and time-consuming assignments not because they want to be praised or noticed—just because those tasks have to be done, by a result, everyone benefits.

The reality is that we all seek "leadership" in our lives at times. Real leaders bring the same commitment to excellence to whatever they do, whether on the stage or behind it.

Don't confuse leadership with fame

Recently, the Discovery Channel aired a two-part special on the top 100 greatest movie icons. Matt Lauer hosted the show each night for one month. Left a million entertainers were gathered online. At the end, the top 25 Americans were announced. The results were what most people would call a mixed bag: Among those on the list were Abraham Lincoln, Elvis and Arnold Schwarzenegger, Bill Clinton and Billy Graham, Thomas Jefferson and Tom Cruise, Walt Disney and John F. Kennedy, Dr. Phil and Michael Moore. The mixture of historically great leaders and entertainers like Michael Jackson and real estate mogul Donald Trump begs the question: What do we think "greatness" is?

In my opinion, fame is based on what we get in life, but true greatness is based on what we give in life. It is contribution through action.

Barbara Stanwyck

Barbara Stanwyck's career plans changed when she was 15 years old. At the time, she was attending college with the intention of becoming a schoolteacher. Then the guy she planned to marry broke off the engagement and she left college to pick up the pieces and "find herself."

"All my plans were down the tubes," Barbara recalls. "I remember thinking: What will I do with my life?"

At least would have it, a leading actress/singer named Bobby Merrill was hiring. Only months earlier, he had been employed driving a bread truck. Then he had a bad accident that changed his life forever. "I was in and out of hospitals over the view for years and was left with a permanent disability," says Bobby.

While recovering and considering how to take care of his wife and three small children, he found a help-wanted ad in the local newspaper. A restaurant chain called Sonic was looking for a managing partner in Los Cruces, New Mexico. And that's how Bobby got started in the restaurant business.

But here was the first employee Bobby hired. He knew how much it, who ran its accountancy at retail. Very low, from his bread truck route and her mother's soon ate's table and loyalty had always impressed him. As he expressed, Sonic could run in the family business—a co-ed partner and certain details quickly helped her to learn the basic business.

Merrill bought out his original partners and started expanding. In December, as he prepared to open up a new drive-in restaurant, he asked Barbara to help train the crew. It was the first time she had helped to train someone else. "Soon I was ordering equipment and uniforms and doing everything necessary to get ready for a new opening," she discovered that she truly was also good at doing her job. she was good at teaching others, as well.

"Yeah," Bobby remembers, "was high-energy. She always seemed to make whatever she did better."

With her strong work ethic and sense of integrity, Barbara treated the business as if it were her own. Her passion and sense of responsibility could not go unnoticed for long. Her passion and sense of responsibility could not go unnoticed for long. Her passion and sense of responsibility could not go unnoticed for long

Mitsubishi introduces all-new 2007 Strada 4x4

MITSUBISHI MOTORS PHILIPPINES has launched the all-new Strada 4x4 pick up. This is already the 5th generation of the 2,200 series and Mitsubishi Motors is confident that **with its new styling and outstanding performance** it will again be a top choice in the 4x4 pick up segment. It can be recalled that the previous Strada model introduced in 1997 was the best-selling 4x4 pick up for seven successive years.

The all new Strada has evolved not just as a pick up, but also as an alternate everyday workhorse vehicle which can be used for business, family and recreation. With this, Mitsubishi Motors gives it a fresh and exciting styling, superb moving performances, best in class ride comfortness, a comfortable ride and SUV interior styling and trim.

The exterior styling of the all-new Strada is **impressive and distinctly unique from other** pick up in the market. It creates a dynamic, **road-hugging stance underlined** by its bulging fender flares accentuated by its **rugged and commanding front design which** is similar to the Pajero Evolution's design **identity. The all-new Strada sets measures** 5080 x 1900 x 1780 (length x width x height in mm).

The all new Strada is equipped with the new 2.5 liter 4D56 Mitsubishi Direct Injection Diesel with Hyper Common Rail DOHC 16-valve Turbo Intercooled engine. Mitsubishi Motors has used the best and strake of the proven and reliable 4D56 engine and strength and its internal components is withstand the **additional power that results from the DOHC,** 16-valve and Direct Injection Hyper Common Rail System. Mitsubishi motors realized from this 2.5 liter engine is already 100 horsepower maximum torque at 314 N·m @ 2,000 rpm. The adoption of the ECI-Common Rail system enables the all-new Strada to deliver high output, flatter torque curve, low fuel consumption, clean emissions, and quiet operation. This new Direct Injection Diesel Common Rail engine is already Euro-2 compliant and is properly matched with the current diesel fuel in the country.

New engine, advanced transmission

In addition, this new engine is coupled to either an advanced 5-speed transmission or a six-**4-speed electronically controlled automatic** transmission. Either transmission delivers driving power through the four-wheel 4WD system. This fully-proven four-wheel-drive system enables the driver to choose three drive modes namely "2H" for smooth, paved highways, "4H" for wet and slippery surfaces, "4LC" for rough tracks and rock climbing. Users can also shift on the fly from "2H" to "4H" and back even while traveling at speeds up to 100kph.

Suspension system of the all-new Strada **has also been completely redesigned.** The front suspension uses a double wishbone with coil spring lay-out which replaces the old torsion bar type springs. This new system enhances driving comfort and stability even off the road. The rear lay-out uses an above-the-axle type thereby also producing the same benefit as the new front suspension.

The safety system of the all-new Strada has been greatly improved by using Mitsubishi's state-of-the-art Super Sport Vehicle Concept (SSV) frame. The SSV frame incorporates front and rear crumple zones with reinforced **beams to disturb collision force and direct it** away from the vehicle's interior. Should the GLS' 2.5 DI-D 136 PS engine come close to the limit of traction during hard braking, the ABS with Electronic Brake Force Distribution will function to prevent them from locking up and **making the Strada still maneuverable.** Dual SRS front airbags, anti-trapping power windows, and tailgate mounted third brake lamp are standard safety items on both Strada GLS and GLX.

During the presentation to the media, Mitsubishi Motors Philippines president and CEO Kengo Takase was quoted as saying, "The all new Strada is a significant addition to Mitsubishi Motors Philippines model line up. We are confident that the all new Strada will regain market leadership again in the 4x4 pick up segment."

The all-new Strada is now available at all Mitsubishi dealerships and will be available in three variants, the standard GLS with manual transmission, and a high-grade GLS with both manual and automatic transmission options.

Colors available for the GLS and GLX models are Solid White, Cool Silver, Metallic Red, Dark Gray Mica, and Medium Blue Mica.

The 2007 Strada also comes with a 3-year warranty or 100,000 km, whichever comes first.

Jose Mari Chan sings for poor children

MASTER balladeer JOSE MARI Chan and multi-talented pop artist Jamie Rivera are leading their voice and music for the benefit of poverty-stricken children in a two-hour show dubbed as "Concert for a Cause."

Together, Jose Mari and Jamie will take concertgoes of the Meralco Theater for the fund-raising concert on Oct. 22 that promises to be a night of **magical and classical melodies. The** two will serenade the audience will **soulful ballads and inspiring pop mu**sic.

Jose Mari, the Filipino singer-songwriter who has gained global prominence with such hits as "Christmas in our Hearts" and "Beautiful Girl", is back doing his best staging a concert for humanitarian purposes.

Jamie, on the other hand, has one of the most lovely faces and voices in the music industry. In the early 1990s, this singer-composer performed in the United States to help raise funds for the victims of Mount Pinatubo.

Following the release of "Tell the World of His Love" in 2000, Jamie has focused on singing and creating music about love and Christian faith.

Odyssey Foundation Inc., the **corporate social responsibility arm** of food processing firm CDO-Foodsphere Inc., is organizing the concert to help provide shelter, education and health services to poor children under the care of the Holy Trinity Home.

Located in Barangay Isauyo, Novaliches, Quezon City, Holy Trinity Home is run by the Trinitarian Lasallian Sisters of the Holy Trinity whose great desire is to uplift the condition of children living in poverty.

The benefit show is sponsored by Unionbank, Oriental Assurance, Oriental Tile Sans, Leyson Commercial, Equitable-PCI Bank, Mercator, United Coconut Planters Bank, Philippine Airlines, Philippines and CDO-Foodsphere.

Air ticket inquiries, call Tina at 304-4661 or 291-1500.

Mabuhay Tinapay goes to Dagupan

MABUHAY TINAPAY, THE HOUSEHOLD campaign of renowned Philippine flour millers and the US Wheat Associates aimed at getting Filipinos to eat more bread is going to be launched in Dagupan this month. It is intended to create awareness of the health and economic benefits of eating bread.

Launched earlier in Metro Manila, the Philippine wheat flour milling industry is to be the beneficiary of Mabuhay Tinapay campaign to drum up interest in bread products and other wheat-based food in the country.

There are two flour millers associations in the country. The Philippine Association of Flour Millers (Pafmil) which was established in 1962, some four years after the first flour mill in the country-Republic Flour Mills, now known as RFM Corp-was put up.

Aside from RFM Corp, the other members of Pafmil are Wellington Flour Mills, Liberty Flour Mills, Universal Robina Corp, General Milling Corp, Philippine Flour Mills and Pilmico Foods Corp.

The other organization, the Chamber of Philippine Flour Millers (Champhflour) was organized in the early 1990s. Its members are San Miguel Pure Foods, Philippine Foremost Milling Corp, Morning Star Milling Corp and Davao Flour Mills.

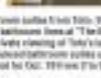
Starting table tent tariff competition, local wheat flour millers have combined resources with US Wheat Associates, the marketing arm of American wheat farmers, **in an effort to increase the Filipinos' up**, points for pandesal, monay, loaf bread and other wheat flour-based delicacies.

The Mabuhay Tinapay campaign is a **combined effort aimed** at promoting the consumption of all kinds of bread among Filipinos for its health benefits and to encourage bakers and bakery owners to patronize locally-milled flour.

Multi-purpose appeal

THE LOVELINESS AND DURABILITY OF THE BEECH

Dalin's multifunction sign allows for its multi-use some appeal, especially for couples on the run who often spend a morning conversation in the bath space. The Mercer bath is just one of



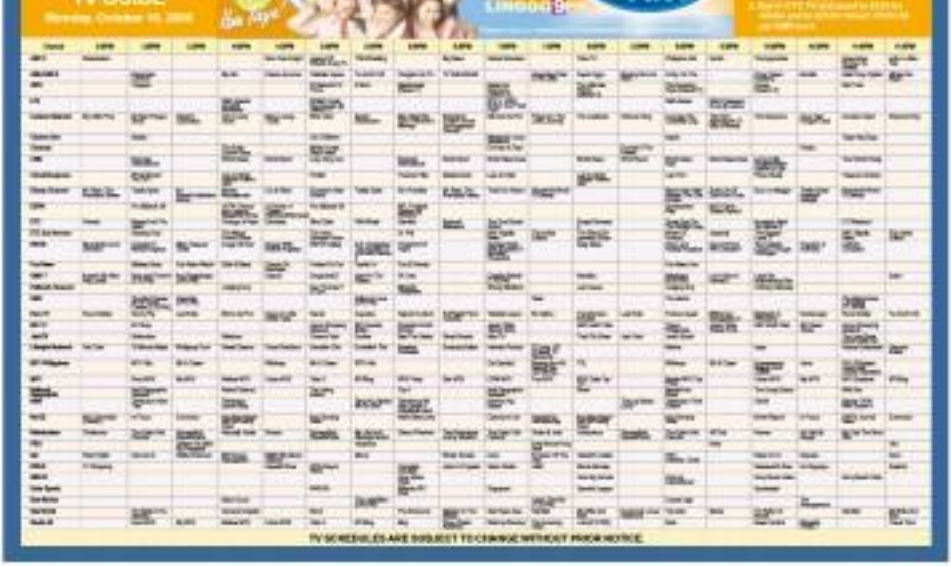
the characteristic bathroom suites from Villeroy & Boch. The store's remarkable bathroom from at "The Bath Space 2007". This picture viewing of Tate's latest and most technically advanced bathroom suites and bathrooms for 2007 is slated for Oct. 19 to Oct. 21 in Tate's showroom at Gallery 878 in Edsa Shangri-la until Oct. 20. Its paintings, mostly in watercolor, have won more than a dozen art awards in the competitions sponsored by Swiss groups, leading the works of veteran American artists. Shigeru is an established and sought-after sea **creative instructor in California. In addition, he is a** part-time portrait and caricature artist at Disneyland and Disneyland California Adventure. His forthcoming exhibit will feature his prize-winning pieces along with California landscapes and still life paintings.

Valencia's 9th one-man exhibit

ANNA "ANGGI" Valencia, an officer of the Embassy Group who is now based in Carson City, California, is holding his 9th one-man exhibit titled "Inmates Home" at Kenny Rogers Roasters, 8 Forbes Town Road, Bonifacio Global City, Taguig City. Her more information and viewing schedule, call Willian Chan at 751-8888.

Kenny Rogers Roasters promo

KENNY ROGERS ROASTERS, HOME OF DELICIOUS-O healthy meals, doubles the fun for the price tag of snack time with its "Buy One Get One Free" promo. For every purchase of a medium roast chicken, the **dine-in guests can get a similar item for free on days** a week. On Mondays, munch your favorite one-piece



TV SCHEDULES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE

BUSINESS Monday

Loan of corporate funds

FOR PRACTICAL REASONS, A CORPORATION maintains in its bank account only the money it needs to meet its usual operational requirements, plus a buffer for unexpected expenses.

The prudent financial manager will not make funds placement that give minimal interest or yield.

Today's financial market has a wide variety of securities, bonds and other instruments that offer respectable returns on investment depending on the investor's preference.

As a rule, corporations are free to handle their funds subject to any they want so long as they do not violate their charter and mingle on their credit obligations.

Indeed, it makes good business sense for a company to invest its idle cash in instruments owned or managed by reputable financial institutions.

But what if the corporation opts to lend its spare money to private persons or companies that, in the judgment, may good credit standing?

Is the decision from the stockholders' meeting necessary enough for the stockholders to complain and demand that the loan be withdrawn?

Not really, said the Securities and Exchange Commission when its opinion on this matter was sought by a concerned stockholder.

Restrictions

The SEC stated that in corporations other than those engaged in the business of extending credit facilities, that lending activity calls for a close review of the business and purpose for which the corporation was organized.

If there are no restrictions in its articles of incorporation or by-laws, a corporation can put its idle funds to good use by lending or investing them, instead of leaving them unproductive.

It's important though that these funds be presently unutilized by the company and the lending is temporary in nature, not something done on a regular basis.

In extending loans, however, the corporation "should observe whatever prudence or limitations there may be in regard to the security to be taken, or the parties to whom the loans may be made."

Thus, the party to whom the money is lent should put up sufficient collateral for the loan or has the capacity to return or pay the loan as to maturity date.

Corporate securities info
Ranulf Palabrica

While the SEC has adopted a liberal attitude on this matter, it is wary about the lending activity being used as a scheme to perpetrate swindling or that it may result in the infringement of the "trust fund" doctrine.

Any acts of the corporation that tends to or puts at the dissipation of its monetary and physical assets to the prejudice of its creditors is taboo.

The directors or officers of the corporation who may have had a hand in the squandering of the assets could find themselves in serious financial trouble in terms of fines and damages.

But it is not enough that the criteria enunciated above be met by a corporation that wants to lend its extra cash to third parties.

The SEC stressed that the corporation has to comply strictly with Section 42 of the Corporation Code before it undertakes that lending activity.

This means, a majority of the board of directors and the stockholders who represent two-thirds of the outstanding capital stock should give their consent to that action.

What's more, the stockholders' blessings must be given in a meeting where the proposed lending is clearly indicated in the agenda as an item for discussion and decision.

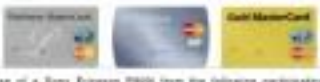
Why the strict rules? Because the subject lending activity is not considered an integral part of a corporation's business and the creditors' interests may in the process, be adversely affected.

For feedback, please write to *rsp@inq7.net.* *(RSP)*

Sony Ericsson

Here's an offer worth listening to.

Purchase a Sony Ericsson P990i with your Platinum MasterCard, Titanium MasterCard or Gold MasterCard and get a Sony Ericsson Bluetooth Headset free.



• Every purchase of a Sony Ericsson P990i from the following participating outlets such as: a) Sony Ericsson Concept Shops in SM North EDSA, Eight-Exchange Ayala Ave., Greenhills 1, SM Mall of Asia, Ayala Center Cebu, NCCC Mall Davao to Avent in Greenhills 1 to Adventure Shops in Glorietta 1, Eastwood Libis, Robinsons Galleria, Shangri-la Plaza Mall at Ambassador at Shangri-la Plaza Mall, Park Square 1 at Automatic Castle Shops in Glorietta 4, Gateway Mall, Festival Supermall, North EDSA at Electrolite at Park Square 1, Market! Market! SM San Lazaro at Xenocom in Cyber Time Mall, SM Southmall, Podium Mall, Power Plant Mall, SM Centerpoint, SM Fairview, SM Megamall, SM North EDSA to Mastest Marketing in Pasay Road Makati and SM Megamall entitles the customer to a free Sony Ericsson Bluetooth Headset HBH-PV702.

Promotion period is from October 9, 2006 until November 13, 2006.

Think 3G

Sony Ericsson Trademarks and Logos are trademarks or registered trademarks of Sony Ericsson Mobile Communications AB. Sony Ericsson Mobile Communications AB, SE-221 88 Lund, Sweden. All rights reserved. Publication number: 1/1551-HSC 105 1

Ex-singer wins million miles

EDC PHOENIX ARTISTE TYLER is to the moon and back twice, but this 33-year-old Filipina is bent on keeping her feet on the ground—literally.

Teresa Wilkie clinched one million base travel miles on Philippine Airlines (PAL) after applying for a Mabuhay Miles Visa credit card and racking up enough points to win the grand prize in the One Million Miles raffle promo of HSBC, the world's biggest bank.

Teresa and her husband travel worldwide between the Philippines and Japan to run a Japanese restaurant in Makati City and a Tagaytay restaurant in Tokyo. Should they decide to use their prize winnings, they will be able to travel to Japan for free weekly for the next six months.

MOLINA

Molina does not plan to use the free miles for herself or her Japanese husband, a 6-consultant, "they'd rather find us give others the opportunity to see other places," says Teresa.

"We'll use some of the miles for the regular business trips of our staff to Japan," says Teresa. "We've just opened our Japanese restaurant here in Makati City two months ago and we're busy building it up."

At the Oramiendas restaurant, Teresa relates how her grandmother could finally allow her parents and siblings to travel. The Molinas had from Baron Sur, but has since moved to Las Piñas City. The fifth among eight children, Teresa has already promised to share some of her free travel Miles with family members who wish to visit their place in Japan. Since winning her bout, Teresa says she has already given away at least 200,000 of the free Miles to friends and family who have learned of her luck.

Hers was the stereotypical story of a singer in a Manila KTV bar who met and fell in love with one of the customers, a Japanese businessman-client on a night out with his business partners. This was 12 years ago and Teresa has since become an able manager of her husband's restaurant and grocery businesses. She now speaks nearly fluent Nipponggo and entertains customers like a pro.

It was her husband Seiji who first learned about HSBC's One Million Miles raffle promo. They were at the airport arrival area when he saw the words "Sayang mg Miles!" emblazoned on a billboard.

When they opened a Japanese restaurant last January, they decided to get a credit card to make their food purchases hassle-free. "We're not fond of carrying cash around. It's not safe," Theriyuki says.

They chose the Mabuhay Miles Visa from HSBC where one mile is earned for every P40 charged to the credit card. It did not take long for the couple to rack up nearly 200,000 Miles.

"I was surprised by the news that I won. I have not even won in any single raffle, much more this time!" says Teresa, who was in Tokyo when the bank called.

IN THIS ISSUE
■ **Jack Canfield** barnstorms Manila /E1
■ **Lea Salonga** performs in benefit concert /D1

LIFESTYLE
Ailyn Chan-Sanz-Formoso Associate Editor Lito B. Zabala

"STUDY for Las Ignorin," by Juan Luna

Works of Philippine masters to be shown in San Francisco

"UNTITLED (Landscape and Firearms)," by Fernando Amorsolo

By Arnaldo Ma. Guerrero
Contributor

BY THE 1960S, WITH THE rise of modern artists, Fernando Amorsolo (1892-1972) was considered outmoded and representing a traditional, conservative school of art. But even his critics agreed his genius lay in capturing the warm, tropical sunlight of the Philippine countryside.

Amorsolo was not forgotten. In fact, his works remain highly placed on the market to this day, and he became the country's chief National Artist in 1972, the year of his death.

Fernando Zobel (1924-1984) turned to paint at the fair, so to speak, of Amorsolo, who was a friend of the family. But his later abstract paintings in a very different style. Zobel was said to have been lost by criticism from some closed-minded Filipino circles that he (like his fellow countryman Juvenal Sanso) belonged to Spain, and not to the Philippines.

And so Zobel, perhaps piqued, went to his native Spain (where he was acclaimed by critics for his "Oriental" touch. Ocampo, on the other hand, went to Paris but still visits the country from time to time.)

Juan Luna (1857-1899) was not as academic in his colors believed, or still believe. After winning those awards in Spain, he (unlike to Social Realism and Impressionism. Luna "inundated by almost 150 years the Social Realist movement that was to become popular in the Philippines," says Florian Cajiuringo-Baker, director of the Ayala Museum in Makati City.

Some 30 works of these three Philippine masters—representing three important periods in Philippine art—will be displayed from Oct. 20 to Jan. 7, 2007, in San Francisco, USA. The exhibit is titled "Pioneers of Philippine Art."

The venue is the Asian Art Museum of San Francisco at 200 Larkin St. in that city (CA 941 02).

In a recent press conference at the Ayala Museum to announce the event, Fernando Zobel de Ayala, Ayala Corporation president, said "this is a great way to showcase our art to the Filipino-Asian icon as well as to the American community residing there."

He added, "This is the first time that the museum is sending these very valuable paintings abroad."

In the same presscon, Cajiuringo-Baker, an art historian, revealed that there were Juan Luna paintings in Spain that have not been seen in the Philippines.

"It requires a lot of negotiation and political will to convince the Spanish government to lend these paintings," she added.

The Ayala Museum intends to undertake this kind of event every two years. The objective, said Cajiuringo-Baker, is eventually to come up with "a repository of Philippine art ... which is a combination of Eastern and Western forms."

The works are something Filipinos in the US will immediately recognize. At the same time, the museum director pointed out, "we have to educate them [the American public] and show that our art is a legitimate expression, and not a copy of Western art."

"GRATIA, Regnavit Post Hubbenum," by Fernando Zobel

Effective control of blood sugar, hunger and weight for diabetics

A breakthrough in diabetic nutrition. Glucerna SR is the number one nutritional formula clinically proven to help maintain blood sugar levels.

Spaced Release Carbohydrate Blend Unlike other carbohydrate sources which produce a quick spike in blood sugar after meals, Glucerna SR supports the spaced or periodic release of glucose throughout the length of the gastrointestinal tract.

Effective Hunger Control Registering only 17 on the glycemic index scale, Glucerna SR effectively moderates the highs and lows of after-meal blood glucose response.

Complete with 28 Vitamins and Minerals A whole range of essential nutrients as well as additional levels of Vitamin E and B6, folic acid and Chromium helps maintain good diabetic health.

High Monounsaturated Fatty Acids Glucerna SR helps lower cholesterol and promotes a healthy cardiovascular system.

Enriched with Fiber for healthy digestion that can help promote weight reduction.

GLUCERNA SR is a complete and balanced low-calorie nutritional formula for people with diabetes. Along with proper diet, exercise and medication, this delicious drink is buttery caramel-vanilla and creamy chocolate flavors should be an essential part of the diabetic's healthy daily meal plan.

Ask your doctor about diabetes management. For free nutrition counseling, call the DIABETES HOTLINE 890-3444 or the National Toll Free Hotline 1-800-10-8-43367 or email hcs.ph@abbott.com from Mondays thru Fridays, 8am - 5pm.

"With my diabetes under control, I've got my life back!"

"Being a diabetic hasn't stopped me from taking up my passions like badminton, tae-bo and singing in the church choir. To help keep my blood sugar normal, I take doctor-recommended Glucerna SR. This way, I can give 100% of myself at work and at home."

Mrs. Joenalyn Semira
Financial Advisor, Wife, Glucerna SR User

TAKE CONTROL OF DIABETES. TAKE GLUCERNA.

Glucerna SR mercury drug

Save P50.00 on Glucerna SR 400 grams

Save P100.00 on Glucerna SR 900 grams

Sweet savings with Bantay Kalusugan Discount Coupon

Abbott

The genes have it

By Gina Dantimenda
Lifestyle Reporter

IT'S A RARE DISPLAY OF FAMILIAL bonding. Ray Venerackion and his two sons, artist Mikhail and student Mikhail, collaborate in a show to bring into sharp focus their unique artistic sensibilities.

Joined by an observer expressionist style, the works of the father and sons are united by their richly layered allegorical statements on the postmodern world as well as their semi-Antonio and philosophical tendencies that mix pop, comic goods and neo-expressionist genres.

Venerackion himself has been a staunch abstractionist since his graduation from the University of the Philippines College of Fine Arts, where he was a student of Ibrahim Jose Joya, of the New York school of Abstract Expressionism.

Venerackion's work is characterized by a rich pictorial field that justifies a mostly title of images culled from history, religion and current affairs. The operative word in his art is the subconscious that spills into dreams, nightmares and fantasies.

The current show in Magnet Gallery (The Loop, EU Center, 8804-0809 Extension), until Oct. 31, has a maze of open-ended images where boundaries come, and the nonlinear order of narratives hinders from into visual fragments and puns culled from the pages of postmodern, postcolonial history.

True to form, the senior abstractionist unravels a rich lode of his- and socio-cultural references that echo his own contemporary issues.

In "Logic of Nightmares," we see the central image of Superman in flight, surrounded by a host of fe- tuitist faces like those of the Native Americans, the Filipino revolutionaries, the Twin Towers, and the supreme restraint. Dasma- like Lacker, shown aloft in his winged horse.

"GAllivg Mga Bituin sa Mantting Japas si Vincent," by Ray Venerackion

All these may seem to be a series of disparate elements yet the logic of their collective presence seems inevitable if not unavoidable, given the recurring scenario of the last hundred years of American invasion.

Artistic torment

In another work, "Gold ng Mga Bituin sa Mantting Japas si Vincent," we are the portrait of Vincent van Gogh, accented by a black yellow line without seeing his image. To his left, we see an appropriated images of a ghostlike form and smaller yellow-clothed circles as a vast field of blue. The effusive seems to strike deep into the state of mind of the tormented artist, of whom Ray Gogh represents to spellbinds.

"CROSS/Fire/Hurricanes," by Ian Venerackion

LEE de Leon

By Constantino C. Tejero

AN INTERESTING STUDY IN metaphenomenon and contrast can be seen in the exhibit of the father-and-son tandem of photographers Lee and Ian de Leon.

These are images selected from their newly launched 100 page photography book, with the photo taken by the Sony Ericsson Cyber-shot phone, the K800i. This is reportedly the first time such a project was executed with the exclusive use of a camera phone.

The exhibit takes the title of the book, "Tracing the Wind," until Oct. 22 on the 2/F of the Main Mall of the SM Mall of Asia.

Join De Leon is already a noted photographer and his son Lee is an up- coming one showing much promise. The duo flew to so far as Japan, Dubai, London and Los Angeles to capture their images.

The first thing that grabs the viewer's attention is the extraordinary look of these digital photos in terms of texture and the amount of color manipulation. But just as notable is the photographers' respective visual composition, distinct from each other as well as their individual styles.

On the wings of photography

JUN de Leon

LEE de Leon

THE VENERACIONS: Mikhail, Ian and Mikhail Jr., Ray (seated)

"PAINTING for the Blind," by Mikhail Venerackion (below left), and "The World Shudders as It Changes," by Ray Venerackion (below)

In "The World Shudders as It Changes," the hints of beauty and terror seem to be intersecting into each other: a globe modeled in the manner, a skull covered with barbs in his left, and a photo of what looks like a rubber tree bomb.

Ray's famous son, the twelve as- ter Ian, works in the same mode of abstraction, but his imagery is almost minimalist, composed in clays.

The palette is equally sub- dued, thinking itself in lavender and pale blue, highlighted by pink and red.

In minimum pilot, Ian excels in evoking sublimated messages, as in "Close Five Americans," a scream uttered by downcaster minds and women. In his other work, "Red Bow and Satin Ribbon," he seems to be telling a romantic story interrupted by a tragic turn of events.

Needing leaving perhaps is the brushwork, which has yet to become more persuasive in creating essential sensual effects. The impastos are visible, all right, but they need to have the all-essential impact of dancing air.

The shudder that is already rife in Ian's work, we hope, will evolve into a more cohesive sensibility.

Mikhail's oeuvre combines a variety of media and imagery with wonderful results.

In "Painting for the Blind," he draws a canvas haphazardly stretched and painted in visual Braille inscriptions. The artist seems to be saying that art must indeed itself to include those who may not see but have the experiential ability to feel an artwork.

Mikhail's Pop-Art sensibility readily translates into a powerful bit of satirical irreverence in "Mga Gaino," with its quartet of pensive, like images.

The Venerackions have proven in this show that there's more to art than artistic genes.

"FILIPINO Family," by Manuel Baldemor

'Cuatro Amigos' at Asia Art Gallery

YUMENA AMIGOS," A GROUP EXHIBIT FEA- turing four veterans artists - Malang, Manuel Baldemor, Arline Limpe and Al Perez - is on view at the Asia Art Gallery until Oct. 25.

Malang presents his signature western- wooden subject.

Baldemor, a participative traveler, weaves his new with his Filipiniana roots in Batac, with scenes that capture the itinerant Filipino soul.

Limpe, a self-taught expressionist painter, contributes his share of paintings

"WOMEN Vendors," by Malang

emphasizing his fascination for Gulf Tropical Babes.

Perez, the returned painter of historic churches, has works done in his signature watercolor, though he has of late been experimenting with abstract motifs and incorporating regional treasures from local craftsmen.

Koi and flowers by Escueta

HELEN BONDOC ESCUETA BRINGS her watercolor exhibit "Koi's Aquarelle," until Oct. 25 at Galerie Joaquin, San Juan, Metro Manila.

Fourteen paintings, 12 works inspired by the colors in a living garden scene full of roses, water lilies, lotuses and koi fish.

Inspired by the gardens she has seen, Escueta has painted floral textures of invigorating colors.

A passionate admirer of Oriental art, Escueta has taught Chinese painting and watercolor at Ayala Museum.

In "Koi's Aquarelle," flowers and fish are her means, interpreted with intimacy

"DOUBLE Delight"

Feng shui-inspired works on exhibit

CHINESE-FILIPINO LISANNE UYCHACO, a best-selling painter and author who graduated cum laude from the University of Philippines Diliman, will launch her new collection on Oct. 20, 6:30 p.m., at Art Elements Asian Gallery 3/L, Power Plant Mall.

As a successful businesswoman and artist, Uychaco maintains a balance in her life. She's well versed in feng shui, and her paintings embody this ancient Chinese practice of placement and space to enhance harmony, balance, good health and fortune.

Painting the feng shui elements of water, wood, fire, earth and metal, together with the motif of the ancient Chinese coin, she has more chi, health and luck since age 5, she believes that her art brings positive energy, good health and fortune.

Call 7279008 or e-mail at artelements@ yahoo.com.ph for

"DRAGON Boat," by Lisanne Uychaco

"THREE Ladies" I, by Lydia Velasco

"THREE Ladies" I, by Velasco

"EIGHT Horses," by Flavio Portal

Sotheby's to auction off 18 Pinoy works

SOTHEBY'S WILL HOLD ITS MAIDEN auction of Southeast Asian art on Oct. 22, at the Regent of Singapore.

On April, all 18 artworks by the Filipino artists successfully sold at auction for a total of HK$7,240 or P37,291,000.

For the October auction, Sotheby's has chosen 28 artworks from 12 artists.

The feature Filipino pieces is 47" x 47" x 96" Neo-Surgal piece titled "Manila, Philippines," dated 1946. This piece is estimated at HK$200,000-HK$300,000 or US$76,899-US$115,349,000.

Also on auction are five watercolors, a pair of Manansalas, four Tolentinos, a surrealist abstract piece by Jose Joya and Imao's 46½" x 29" acrylic on canvas titled "Education of Innocence," two works by H.R. Ocampo, and a Pedro Abad titled "Circles on (God Given)."

Included in the setting "New Contemporary Masterings" are a triptych by Lydia Velasco, "Three Ladies" acrylic on canvas, for a combined size of 46" x 54". Velasco's "Flower Vendors" sold at 231 times the original estimate in April.

The auction includes a colorful work in acrylic on canvas encompassed multi-gold leaf by Mario Parial, a 59" x 49" "Eight Horses," and a Zen-inspired abstract piece titled "Peaceful Dust" by Cecile Hugon.

Senior art collectors may choose works from five sections: Indo-European Art, Indonesian Art, Singapore Masterwork, Filipino and Thai Paintings and Performance Paintings.

For the younger collectors, Sotheby's has opened the category New Contemporary Paintings.

"PEACEFUL Dust," by Cecile Hugon

make it happen

The future is in your hands. John Robert Powers has a program just for you to make it happen! Modeling, Acting, Personal Development, Executive Grooming. Earn the worldwide John Robert Powers Diploma.

CALL NOW: 892 9511 or 927 0465

John Robert Powers

www.johnrobertpowers.com

Cayetan Building, 195 Salcedo St., Legaspi Village, Makati City — Ground Floor, Cinderella Building, 925 EDSA, Quezon City

FREE CONSULTATION. 0% INTEREST. ALL MAJOR CREDIT CARDS ACCEPTED.

Unlocking the Province of Potential

Bulacan Gets PLDT-Enabled

WeRoam Mobile Lifestyle

Hiraya feels your 'Pain'

HIRAYA GALLERY MARG ITS 20TH AN-niversary Oct. 17 with a group exhibition of 12 artists, "Twelve/Sum."

The artists featured belong to diverse ages and come from different art inspirations.

A number of art at the European Internationall School in Parañaque, Karla Cruz-Gobin is diverse off the farm called Belgian surrealism that she has mastered at the Court des Maitres d'arts du Theatre at Belgium. Her 12 small homes to be displayed are extremely personal pieces of artwork which she describes as "drawings in space." They are not direct explorations on a style done first as a sid realism and neo-realism.

Eric Gonzon appropriations in "Collateral d'" a melodramatic depiction of the carnal violence which "couldn't women" had experienced in World War II.

Arnel Brillantes documents in impression to style his father's departure from the Philippines, "Daghan" speaks of the ripples of feelings that occur inside a young son who shared 32 years of a lifetime with his much-idolized father who must leave the country to seek better medications abroad.

Thelma Dagoning paints a parent to an extraordinary Filipina matriarch, Pilar Gayeta, who marks her birth centenary in November.

Egyptian painter Amani Abdelfatt Francisco-mindfulness her portrait of Gayeta with tenderness and melancholy.

Deborah del Pan's "Madonna Without" lit into the stream of pain in the frozen flowing

"UNTITLED, by Karla Cruz-Gobin

"WARRIORS" Heaven to Smile," by Thelma Dagoning

"OLD FRIENDS," by Bobot Mutic

Anita Magsaysay-Ho, Benedicto Malang, Lee Llamzon, Romulo Olazo, Antonio Austria, Norie Perez, Pacita Abad, Nemesio Bolleza, Manuel Baldemor, Ofie Cabrera-Tejar, Charlie Co, Raul Isidro, Nanculate Arevalo, Angel Cacnio, Lydia Velasco, Julio Navia, Jaber Sarkis, Gil Reyes, Joe Cruz-Ruiz, Raul Dolan, Aurel Jalbuena, Steve Sabido, Marcel Antonio, Elmer Borlongan, Joe John Santos III, Kike Escaro, Alfredo Esquillo Jr., David Cuaquillo, Ferdinand Montemayor, Emmanuel Garibay, Jay Ambrocio, Geraldine Javier, Olan Ventura, Ronald Ventura, Norie de Rivera, Rickie Tiboc, Jose Dalisay, Karen Flores, Wedaya-Walang Gawayan, Bob Carascoso, Roland Barayuga, Ed Cordova, Lizmon Urchaldo, Claudio Tuvera, Wivi Tuazon, Wilfredo Alcallen, Christian Tanseco, Herman Alegre, Raul Isidro, Pamela Yap, Patrick de Veyra, Ramon Gabonada, CJ Tampio, Abdul Tahiro, Ramon Orlina, Yuan Brion, Allan Jay Balita, Bo Sumotir

Through the Palette's Eye
2006 Campus Tour

A Palette Art Collection Exhibit

De La Salle University Museum (January to May)
UP Vargas Museum (June to July)
UST Museum (August to September)
Enderun Colleges (October to December)

GLOBE TELECOM
Microsoft
TOYOTA

PRIDE OF PLACE

Augusto S. Villalon

AUGUSTO Villalon has taken a dark leave from his recently exhibited, "Pride of Place." He needs to recover from the hand injuries he sustained when a reindeer in his house was smashed by strong winds at the height of typhoon "Milenyo." We will miss him, but he promises to be back soon. —CS

MONDAY, OCTOBER 16, 2006 PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER D1

LIFESTYLE

Lea Salonga performs for traumatized children

By Arnaldo Ma. Guerrero
Contributor

CONSIDER THE PLIGHT of traumatized children in the Philippines, not to mention other countries which have their share of misfortunes and tragedies.

They are the victims of natural calamities like floods and killer typhoons, and man-made disasters like armed conflict. In this country, there are children who become street urchins, they hear the roar of water, thinking floodwaters will engulf their house anew.

And there are those who are marked when they hear any kind of explosion, be it a fire cracker or a firecracker, believing there is a new military encounter.

The United Nations Children's Fund, Unicef, Center of the Philippines, and other agencies have sent teams of doctors and social workers to help these children, from Isabela and Southern Leyte to Iloilo. But, as always, more hands are needed.

GCF vice president and artistic director Ramon Jozef called attention to the plight of these children in a recent press conference to announce the concert "Tomorrow," to be held at the CCP on Oct. 20-21. Sponsors are Globe Platinum, Stone Specialists Inc., and Procter & Gamble Distributing Phils. Benefactors are MO credit cards, Philippine Charity Sweepstakes Office, Philippine Amusement and Gaming Corp., and International Container Terminal Services Inc.)

The event will raise funds for the traumatized children, with singing newsie Lea Salonga as the main packet taker.

LEA SALONGA

Guests include the Philippine Madrigal Singers, Philippine Philharmonic Orchestra (PPO), Hail Mary the Queen Children's Choir, Kilyawan Boys' Choir, singer Calvin Millado, and child singer Julia Abueva.

PHILIPPINE PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA

Sir and Salonga is mom director, and Chris Millado drums.

During the presscon, Salonga indicated her desire to help traumatized children through this benefit concert. She said: "I am fortunate enough not to be a traumatized child and I have been given so many opportunities..."

Now that she was a mother, the singer said she could better relate to the role she made famous in the musical "Miss Saigon," otherwise the mother, following the plot of the opera "Madame Butterfly" gave her son away and then killed herself.

Salonga said: "I will do anything for her baby daughter (movie theory!)."

The PPO maestro Jose Lozada said that at the end of the concert, the theme song "Tomorrow" from the musical "Annie") will be sung like an anthem for the traumatized children of the Philippines and the world.

HAIL Mary the Queen Children's Choir

CALVIN Millado

Happiness is Buhay Coke

Coke's unique taste and happy fizz invites everyone to do the same - to stand apart and be confident, and to make the most out of everything

Could happiness come from a bottle? Ask any Coke drinker and you're sure to get a big grin. After all, there's nothing like the taste of Coke with its unmistakable fizz and zing. Previously, really Chilling Coke makes people happy. It's more than a drink quencher. It's more for the body and the soul.

The six-time MMFA Theater artist Bituin has been transformed into a happiness! brimming with happiness and optimism on the afternoon of October 13, 2006 as Coke kicked off its latest campaign called Buhay Coke. Buhay Coke with a bang. The country's prominent names in entertainment, business, fashion and politics turned out to welcome Buhay Coke and make the whole choice a big happy.

Guests were dressed in happy colorful garb at the MMFA Theater, which was bathed in vibrant orange light and some glamorous who-as-who of the Philippine showbiz scene mingled with the actresses and dirty the event interests. There were also a slew of activities aimed at inspiring everyone to share the happiness and get that optimism shot. The entire atmosphere was geared towards getting those happy endorphins flowing and putting a smile on everyone's faces. All there would applaud the Coke drifted lounge showcasing the ubiquitous Coke bottle containing a burst of vibrant colors and happy symbols like butterflies, smiles, hearts, people and flowers instead of the usual bubbles. Adding to the thrill was a cute cute of colorful people-cut sporting the iconic design that Buhay Coke dance and happily hanking to offer free rides and bottles of Coke to all comers. Even a priest was to start living Buhay Coke!

At the heart of the Buhay Coke, Bobcat Hill campaign is a celebrity living life in full color, exuding a personality really, being optimistic, and listening to one's heart. Each line of the new brand improvements is tied to goodness for living Buhay Coke and talks about going out of the comfort zone and trying something new - making new friends and making events, spreading kindness and smiling more - spending more to have more and living ahead of pain. The last line makes a powerful statement and connected with hope: "Pangarap, maipatutuloy. Buhay mo. Buhay lang!"

The projection of popular bands such as Kjwapbeats, Lg, Pilipinas Shoe, Chris and Mi and various musical interpretations of the Buhay Coke mantra are on the CD given away to all guests provided.

Many sounds that signed the energy level, taste from these bands are also heard on the CD also.

Besides other musical groups such as Radioactive Sago Project, Aiza Seguerra and Greyhounds with their own unique versions of the beat mixed with their unmistakable Coke vibe.

Limited edition Coke bottles with a full chunky strap of the cool and lively Buhay Coke theme were also given away to guests as memento of their day in Buhay Coke. To share the joy, each bottle of Coke drank during the celebration meant a corresponding Php1000 donation to the Philippine National Red Cross for the victims of the typhoon Milenyo. Even a unique and fun way to do something good for a genuine cause. The celebration was then capped with a flow chanting of the hit movie "Are Baby" a the MMA Theater to all for its upbeat, rewarding happiness in one and all.

Coke's unique taste and happy fizz invites everyone to do the same - to stand apart and be confident, and to make the most out of everything. Embracing the Buhay Coke means sharing and bringing happiness to others just like the way every sip of Coke puts a smile on your face. Instantly look refreshing. Down to the last gulp.

Russian prizewinner debuts in Manila

By Pablo A. Tariman
Contributor

THE RESULT OF THE FIRST HONG Kong International Piano Competition was made available to me through a video provided by Anabella Rizzo of the Chopin Society of Hong Kong and through a very personal and well-documented report by Chang Yue Liang, artistic director of the Singapore International Piano Festival, who also chairs the advisory committee of the National Piano and Violin Competitions.

And so I relived the competition through recent pix from second feelings and the commentary of Liang in her competition diary.

What convinced me that this Hong Kong piano competition is unique is the presence of a select jury in the persons of Gary Graffman, Vladimir Ashkenazy, Cristina Ortiz, Viktor Merzhanov, Louis Hinshaw.

Apart from playing required solo pieces, the contestants had to do chamber music and, in the finals, the required Mozart concerto and romantic concerto of their choices.

The biggest affirmation of this competition and the finalists were accompanied by the London Chamber Orchestra, flown in by the Chopin Society of Hong Kong just for this competition.

All told, the competition joined Asians (from the People's Republic of China, Hong Kong, Malaysia, Korea, Taiwan and Singapore) with contestants from Italy and Russia.

And the winners are (let's hear them first-to-third prizes): Wen Ye Hou (People's Republic of China), second; and Ilya Rashkovskiy (Russia), first.

The grand prize winner Rashkovskiy will be heard for the first time in Manila Dec. 13 at Philamlife Theater in cooperation with the Chopin Society of Hong Kong.

For tickets, call 0906-3149278 or 8997822.

PAGMO Solo Santamaría with pianist Hilario Dantis Jr. in Argao, Cebu

Santamaría-Reyes tour

The 12th Pimienta Piano Competition journey of pianists Ingrid Solo Santamaría and Reinaldo Reyes ended last month with memorable concerts and interaction. From music lovers in Batangas, Cebu, Cavite, Laguna.

They even invaded a shopping mall in Las Piñas (courtesy of Ing. Cynthia Villar), a house of worship in Bhakti, piano studios in Pembagan and Alabang, and a factory museum in Silay.

But the most touching perhaps is the one held in historic Argao Church in Argao, Cebu.

In the audience was Argao's most famous son, former chief Justice Hilario Davide Jr. and Hermes Davide.

After the symposium, one music-lover declared the concert was his most memorable experience after living in Argao for decades.

Songs by Tinio

The superb Filipino translations by National Artist Dr. Thomas Rolinado Tinio of art songs and arias came to life's name in a piquancy with pianist Nina Abaya Quinto at the Villa Arts Center on Oct. 5. Guest artist was mezzo soprano Anna Feleo, who sang excerpts from "Carmen."

From Odette Alcantara, we learned that Akasiko Filipino Inc. would tour the Trias-translated repertoire with dancers Feleo, Isabelle Gonzales, Gemalief Mesa Jung Cuenco, with pianist Reynaldo Reyes and Benjamin Dia Jr., starting this month.

We received a copy of the duration (21 during the previous Cultural Center Philippines CD in the memory of Tinio, who brought opera to the masses when he translated and directed "Fortuna" and "Bohème" at the CCP for the commemoration of opera season.

When the Foreign Visitors sang "Adelin del Pascua" (music: Bel Fuge mezzo) is not, I overheard murmurs of Que horror from the conservatives. I am now curious as to how Play Quintet will do a localized "Traviata" for Philippine Opera Company next year.

By the way, Ike Khandke Filipino previewer was hosted by ace pianist Esther Vilad, with assisting artist Julie Mendoza threatening to accompany and sounds are using Mozart's "Palonap" to be done percussions all the way.

Here and there

On the occasion of the 60th anniversary celebration of His Majesty King Bhumibol Adulyadej's accession to the throne of Thailand, the Ministry of Culture and Tourism of the Kingdom of Thailand, the CCP and the Royal Thai Embassy presented the Bangkok Symphony Orchestra last Oct. 11 at the CCP Main Theater.

Called "A Concert of Royal Compositions," the concert honored 16 compositions of His Majesty King Bhumibol, who is also a musician, composer, arranger and performer. Rear Admiral M.L. Ean Pramoj, RTN and a Thai national artist conducted the orchestra.

Last time we know that in our performance of Cecile Licad in Washington, DC, Her Majesty Queen Sirikit greeted Licad and had a short chat with her backstage? Licad found out the queen studied piano with a famous teacher in Paris.

ILYA Rashkovskiy, first prize winner of First Hong Kong International Piano Competition

Baguio gets a feel of the Noh

By Frank Cimatu
Inquirer Northern Luzon

BAGUIO CITY— WHEN NOH MASter Naohiko Umewaka says, "Heilo," it would sound something like "hiyeeeh-yeeh-hiyeeeee-yeah-yeah-hiyee-hiyed-nell."

"That a 50 seconds already and we have not said the whole word," Umewaka said.

So imagine singing for example, the other two "Elos" in José Rizal's "Noli Me Tangere."

Umewaka said singing Amelia Lapeña-Bonifacio's "Ang Paglalakbay ni Sisa" (sung Noh in Laguna" would take three hours in the traditional Noh (Japanese traditional theater).

But Umewaka, son of Nohdrama Manyasaki Umewaka and a master of Noh in his own right, how to conserve this ancient Japanese dramatic form that combines dance, sung poetry and mask.

Umewaka staged excerpts of Bonifacio's "Sisa" in a full house at Teatro in Baguio City recently. It had been raining so hard and so long in Baguio that one would think people were coming out for the Noh performance for to seek refuge in Kidlat Tahimik's "galleon" at the Venue Baguio.

The rain pounded on the roof that no one, at first, could understand University of the Philippines professor Jim Zaide's explanation of the Noh.

Umewaka, who was only 2 years old when his maternal Noh-returning, had been coming to the Philippines for the past 25 years to teach and perform Noh. A fruit of his labor is the UP Center for International Studies' Noh Theater Ensemble.

The ensemble which Umewaka brought to Baguio included Julius Perman Garrido, Danielle Uyand Diana Malabag.

Garrido, who played the dominant, the Noh-shoulder drum-shaped like an hourglass, had a booming voice (Umewaka is fatigued and would just mumble) exposes in drama. Noh drummer Malabag flicked her Japanese fan like a switchblade to the accompaniment of the instruments.

Umewaka played "Sisa" with Garrido and Uy (who played the kotsuzumi) as the chorus.

"The play had been stylized as Noh so we felt that many people did not realize they were singing in Filipino and not in Nihongo.

NOH master Umewaka performs "Sisa."

"I like playing here. It's so Japanese," Umewaka said.

Items has a wooden water wheel and garden similar to that found in Umewaka's "Cavana."

It has been said that this was the first time Noh has been played to the city by a non-Japanese troupe.

But based on the book "Japanese Pioneers in the Philippines Highlands," it is possible the Noh had been performed in Baguio before World War II.

The close knit Japanese community in the city held important Japanese festivals event, (universally with Osmeña in Japan). They even had their own bathing area and numerous geisha in the city.

The Noh performance here was just a way of saying hello in that memory.

Photo exhibit, poetry reading at Rainbow Project

THE RAINBOW PROJECT AT THE Makati Cinema Complex in Makati, Manila, will host a series of free poetry readings and artistic events dubbed "Bohemian Fridays."

Celebrity photographer Jo-nathan Jones will open an exhibit of photographs Oct. 20, 9 p.m.

To be held also on Oct. 20 is a literary reading by print-winning writers at the second floor lounge starting 8 p.m.

The audience may also read their own works during the open-mic session.

Admission is free. Call 3388781 or 0917-8378717.

Fabio in fashion show

ARMANDO Fabio

ARMANDO FABIO, A WINNER of the 1993 Young Fashion Designers Contest by Air France and the Fashion Designers Group and a resident designer of Rubinson's, will present his boutique collection at the Formula Bar on Roman Morato Street, Quezon City, Oct. 19, 6 p.m.

After entering the scene in the '90s, Fabio has designed swimwear, resort wear and lingerie.

He has also done shows in Jersey City and in the Philippine Center in Manhattan.

His creations are considered sexy but show exquisite detailing and craftsmanship.

Elderly comedy is Pelicula audience choice

THE COMEDY "ELSA Y Fred," a 2005 movie by Argentina's Marcos Carnevale, is the best film of the two-week-long 5th Spanish Film Festival, according to an audience vote.

Pelicula: The 5th Spanish Film Festival is a major highlight of Fi-

SCENE from "Elsa y Fred"

esta 2006, the month-long Spanish Festival for Culture and the Arts, presented by Instituto Cervantes, the cultural arm of the Embassy of Spain.

During the festival, filmgoers were provided a ballot to give them a chance to rate the movies. Each ballot also contained an e-ticket for several prizes raffled Oct. 13.

"Elsa y Fred" is a lovely comedy that tells the love story of two senior citizens. Elsa is 60 and, for the past 40 years, has dreamt of living in the center of Pelham's "La Bolsa City" at the Buenos Aires. She meets another old man, Alfredo, who is slightly younger, and she teaches him the value of time.

Other audience favorites, according to the balloting were "El Método," "El Método," said Fernando Leon's "Princesas," a poignant drama that opened the festival; "El Abuelo," directed by Gonzalo García Pelayo, a 1998, tells the story of an old man who wants to find out who of his five granddaughters is the legitimate one.

"El Método" (Dr. Pilsoto, 2005), based on a famous play about different interview jobs, explores the dark inner workings of the corporate world. The film, featuring great acting and dramatic dialogues, received two Goya Awards.

For more information on Festa 2006, call 5261482.85 or log onto manila.cervantes.es.

Personality development school students win in New York tilt

CHELSEA Mae Rubaiy

CHELSEA MAE ROBERTA A. JOSEPH ROBERT Powers students from Guam, area child runner-up in the junior competition in the recent International Modeling Talent Association (Imta) cit at the New York Hilton. She also garnered honorable mention in the fashion print and runway competitions.

The Imta-screened seven garners 2,000 IEP students from all over the world. John Robert Powers Japan sent Rie Makita from Tokyo who won first runner up in the junior competition, while Keiko Ikeda (Tokyo) was named runner-up. Getting honorable mention awards were Saeko Yamaguchi, Mikiko Hirakuska and Miho Ohno from Fukuoka. Ai Hirata from Osaka and Mori Wakai (Tokyo).

John Robert Powers Manila trained the students before they left for New York. This will be the fourth time the school joined the event.

Heritage conservation seminar set

THE HERITAGE CONSERVATION SOCIETY (HCS), in collaboration with the Urban Redevelopment Foundation (URF) and the University of the Philippines History Department, will hold "Seminar on Philippine Towns & Cities: Reflections of the Past, Lessons for the Future" Nov. 8 at Development Academy of the Philippines, 12 Tivoli Hall, Sacobiguel Avenue (near Shaw Blvd.), Pasig City.

The seminar fee is P1,500 for the private sector, P1,500 for the government sector and P500 for students with ID.

Call HCS (5512229; e-mail: hcs_secretariat@yahoo.com) or URF (895 10 11/896 0961; e-mail: dolandel.urf@gmail.com).

FROM left: Nicole Hyzo receives her token of appreciation from Dr. Bob Aquino; Ruben Laureano and Corey Laurel; Pinkaholic Hart Gist Tess Faith

'Sail On...' concert and dance tour

"SAIL ON... HIS HOLY ROLY FACE," THE second major ecumenical concert and dance tour, was held at Philamlife Theater, ON intermission.

Spearheaded by Dr. Bob Aquino, a devotee of the Holy Face of Jesus, the concert was presented by Hyperactive Productions and Young Apostles of the Holy Face of Jesus.

The program featured Ruben Laureano singing the concert theme song "Sail On" with the Sr. Pinkaholic Performing Arts. The stage buildup had a throwback celebration of the album cover of the "Sail On... His Most Holy Face" CD distributed by Universal Records.

Bisayan film and TV personalities shared their life testimonies, like Pilar Pilapil, composer Tessa Jovico, executive Gil and Bobby Ayala (who sounded the Holy Face Rosary at focus with "Portrait of My Love"), dramatist Ignacio Ibarra Laurel, Corey Laurel and Nelsie Vargas.

The dance competition, performed to a cut from the album, had a distinguished panel of judges: National Artist for Dance Ramon Obusan, Douglas Nuevas of PowerDance and Jed Cruz of Allezzandra.

The Lyceum Performing Arts won the grand prize, while UP Maroli, following, secured second place. Third place went to FEU Performing Arts.

The show ended with Nyor Bibb singing "Maske" and "Solid Rock."

Watch out for the Holy Face Dance for a Cause Oct. 20 at Antuni Café. IS 9 50 tun Rosel and the "Sail On" dance revue Dec. 1 at FEU Auditorium, 5-8 p.m. Call 0918-6038488.

PILAR Pilapil

ANNE Ignacio

Watch out for NYC's 'The Good Body'

THREE OF THE COUNTRY'S TOP theater actresses—Monique Wilson, Pinky Amador and Jean Navarro—appear in New Voice Company's latest production, "The Good Body." The show runs Nov. 10-11 at the Ritsi Museum before it tours Asia. "The Good Body" is written by Jim Bartley, who also wrote the groundbreaking play "The Vagina Monologues." In "The Good Body," Monique, Pinky and Jean play a variety of characters who go through journeys of transformation, from pain and abuse, to inspiration and enlightenment. "The Good Body" is directed by Rico Ancheta. Call 09088187, 09088197, 09088213, e-mail nvc@pldtdsl.net or visit www.newvoicecompany.com.

CLOCKWISE: Pinky Amador, Monique Wilson, Jean Navarro

VISUAL ARTS

Herrera de la Rosa at Philamlife

Herrera de la Rosa holds his first one-man solo exhibit "Theory of Multiplicity" until Oct. 19 at the Philamlife Gallery, Central Business Avenue, Manila. Call 5250230 for e-mail address/information.

"FACE to Face," by Herrera de la Rosa

Lafrance at Avellana

Opening today at Avellana Gallery is Jojo Lafrance's "Definitely, Maybe." Making a comparison from his figure-rooted works, the artist presents scenes of rebellion, large-scale canvas riddled with the ensuing manifestations of the accidental. Strips, splotches, dripdrops, tangles, patterns and floating objects run pronggo pieces, contributing their verve and wit to this composition of contemporary chaos. Avellana Art Gallery is at 8-19, 2388 I.B. Business Pl. Polaris City. Pending Estimon Avellana's. Call 8328252.

"UNTITLED," by JoJo Lafrance

Sandoval at Ubs

Wall artist Marcia Sandoval presents "Fantasy," Oct. 20 Nov. 21 at Ubs Restaurant, Greenbelt 2, Ayala Center, Makati. Some of the works in "women emotions" echo from cautioned like what's imagination. Call 8464913, 8151449 or 0916-7991193.

BY MARCIA S. Sandoval

Chinese contemporary art

The Image Art Foundation of Hong Kong, National Commission for Culture and the Arts and Cultural Office of the Chinese Embassy in Manila present "Dots Boy In Chinese Art Today," a collection of traditional, modern and contemporary Chinese art. The seven-three exhibits artists will run simultaneously until Oct. 31 at the National Museum (paintings and historical works), Metropolitan Museum (contemporary art) and Yuchengco Museum (Traditional Chinese ink paintings). Call 5251315, 5210137 or 8800286.

"DOORS and Windows," by Joe M. Mora

"MUSEA," by Florentin Glave

Nara at Genesis

Gallery Genesis presents "You And Hocus Doors and Windows," a one-man exhibit of same logs and smiles by Jonilli Nara, until Oct. 26 at 44, Ridgy A. Old Magsaysay Mandaluyong. Two grassfire-and-violet images complement his poem-captions. Call 8538153/8538156.

Cinco at Astro

Award-winning sculptor-painter Florentin Glave co-presents his fifth solo exhibit of paintings and sculptures in metal and other media in "Cinco-cinco" until Oct. 31 at Galleria Astro, 138 Boulevard Plaza along N. Garcia St., Makati. His sculptures choose to cast figures of women, forming the torso are recycled materials. The paintings are mixed of metal on wood accented with bolts and pink shoe materials. Call 8883888.

Hubulan at Boston

Boston Art Makati hosts Hubulan's first one-man show "Heroes," until Oct. 19 at the Boston Gallery, 12 Boston St., cor. Lantana St., Cubao, QC. "Heroes" is a solo-cut exhibition of the forbidden of the folk, in their dream to attain beauty, happiness, social heroics give way to sorrows, for poets his subjects to juxtapose them with their objects of desire, although with a certain distance, to indicate the gravity/ion of longing. Call 7239050.

"GOTO Heaven," by Geovanni Z. Hubulan

Jimenez at Mag-Net

Pete Jimenez presents mini-sculptures in "Accessories," until Oct. 31 at Magnet Gallery, Makati. The title refers to the use of the models' genitals as "accessories." Visit www.magnet.com.ph

"PETAL Revolution," by Pete Jimenez

Various artists at Racco Rocca

Racco Rocca Gallery and Café at 1316 Business Plaza, Bldg. 2139 Bloomer Garcia St., San Jose 2, Makati presents "Iconicity," an exhibit of eight artists. The exhibit opens on Oct. 20 at 6:00 and runs until Nov. 20. Call 8883343-46.

Samson at Boston

Jaypee Samson morphs his first one-man exhibit of surrealist trips "Reclaiming Sea," until Oct. 20 at the Boston Gallery, 12 Boston St., QC. Samson's photorealistic paintings are commentary on the loss of communion: the demonstrative lens-to-purity as a privileged observer of human character and values. Call 7239050.

"NANAY," by Jaypee Samson

Tiaoco at Power Plant

Power Plant Mall's B1 Bridgeway presents Gio Tiaoco's "Vignettes," until Oct. 29. Tiaoco is a member of The Blue Rooms Group of Artists and the Cubicons Group of Artists. Call 8908181 loc. or 8113601.

"UNTITLED," by Gino Tiaoco

New book by Tuplo

Celeb E.R. Tuplo's second series "Yuma Ipy" and the trendsetting urban second book "My Life in Prison," Oct. 25, 6 p.m. at Power Books Greenbelt 4, Ayala Center, Makati Avenue, Makati. The exhibit runs until Oct. 29. Call 8113420 or 8921-5622288.

ARTIST Pancho Piano and his mural "Tayong Lahat, Bayan!"

Pancho Piano tour

Pancho Piano is scheduled to tour his mural "Tayong Lahat, Bayan!," to key cities in various regions in the country. Piano is set to hold a series of workshops, kicking off on Nov. 9 in the Philippine Consulate Cebu in New York. "Tayong," the exhibit, features his latest works in abstraction such as "Talking" and "Tiny Jubilee." From New York, the artist will also go to Los Angeles and San Diego, Nov. 13-25.

MACAU "IMPRESSIONS"

The Macau Government Tourist Office Philippines recently invited four well-known Filipino artists to experience through their eyes their impressions of the former Portuguese colony. In photo with MGTO Philippine representatives Marcelino Lim (seated, left) and Jet Calendag (seated, right) are (standing) Claude Tayag, National Artist Benedicto Cabrera, BenCab, Boy Sunico, and Phyllis Zobel-Ayala (seated, center). The paintings will be exhibited in February. The Macau Government Tourist Office is at Suite 11-D, Valero Tower, 122 Valero St., Salcedo Village, Makati. Call tel (632)5581 0890 or visit www.macauislands.gov.mo.

Facial Care Centre:
24 Years of Ageless Beauty

Look fabulous in your 20's, 30's, 40's and beyond! Facial Care Centre, the country's leading anti-aging and beauty expert celebrates 24 years of Ageless Beauty. Get softer, smoother, wrinkle-free skin and enjoy big discounts this month of October.

With Facial Care Centre's proven excellence in professional skincare, having beautiful, glowing skin and looking 5 years younger is now easier. And because FCC only uses advanced non-invasive technology, it has become the preferred choice of successful, discerning women who are always on the move. Read on and find out the beauty secrets of these women and discover how they manage to look young and fabulous – at any age!

CHERIE GIL, 43: I'm very particular about what I put on my face. I only use high-end products. I use skincare products from Facial Care. They're very reliable. They've been around for more than 20 years, before anyone else! I'm at the Centre once or twice a week for treatments. I like the Facial Treatment with Collagen a lot and the Skin Tone Re-energizer. Now I'm doing Facial treatments, which is their newest laser. I heard about it when I was in New York, it's the latest thing.

DAWN ZULIETA-LAGDAMEO, 37: Friends who haven't seen me in years tell me, "You still look the same!" It's nice to know I seem to respect that kind of query. I think it's important to take care of your skin. The Skin Tone Re-energizer, IPL and Antioxidant Laserfoliane are my favorites. I always prefer non-invasive treatments. Why go under the knife? You don't have to with treatments at Facial Care.

CRISTINA ROMUALDEZ, 42: I've been FAC "YOU DON'T look 40!" a lot which is very flattering. Everybody knows I maintain my skin with Facial Care. I live in Leyte, Tacloban and whenever I'm in Manila I always drop by. I get the IPL, Collagen Treatment, Vita Relief and Diamond Peel. They got rid of my brown spots, spider veins and fine lines. I also get LaserLight to remove my unwanted hair.

ANNA ARANAZ-ALUNAN, 37: As I get older, my pores have gotten more obvious and my skin gets damaged from the sun easily. I started to get the Deep Cell Bacterial Facial and Diamond Peel to take care of that. I've gotten comments about how rosy my skin is even without make-up.

AMA RODES, 30: People don't believe my when I tell them I'm 30. I get reactions like, "You're not 30, you look like a teenager!" "They can't believe I have a 7-year old daughter. You just have to take care of your skin. I'm a fan of Facial Care's Firming Facial, Advanced Laserfoliane and Glamour Peel. LaserLight also made my legs and underarms smooth and hair-free.

DELAMAR, 33: My neighbors who see me when I leave early for my morning shoes have asked me, "Hija, hindi ba ang age mo naman pahabol sa school?" They thought I was still in school because I looked so young! I've actually been working for 15 years, so that was a great compliment. I owe that to my favorite Vita A.C.E. and Vita Relief facial in Facial Care. And I love LaserLight!

AMANDA GRIFFIN, 27: Lately I've been getting treatments in Facial Care to even out my skin tone. That's my problem since I'm always exposed to the sun. I enjoy their facials a lot too. I also love LaserLight's permanent hair removal. After a few treatments, you don't have to go through the arduous shaving process.

DANNI CHAN, 33: People always tell me I look younger than my real age. I'm definitely a regular Facial Care client. I just love the Diamond Ultra Peel. I see that there's a difference right after the treatment. I also love LaserLight hair removal!

CARMI MARTIN, 42: People have told me that I still look as good as I did when I was just starting as an actress. At my age though, I know I have to take extra steps in keeping the signs of aging. I always get Facial Care's Facial Treatment with Collagen, Skin Tone Re-energizer, Diamond Peel, Advanced Laserfoliane and of course IPL. Lucy Torres-Gomez even told me my skin was glowing when I was on her show!

PATTY BETOS, 26: Some students in my modeling workshop have asked me how I keep my skin glowing and rosy without make-up. And these girls went to their early 30s! My problem has always been oily skin so I get the basic facial, Advanced Laserfoliane, Diamond Peel and IPL. Those are my favorites.

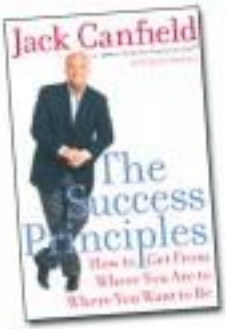
LYN CHING, 30: In my line of work, stress, harsh lights and make-up are what I deal with everyday. So I make it a point to get my regular facials and Advanced Laserfoliane in Facial Care. I know they work because I get a lot of positive comments on my skin when I'm without make-up.

Facial Care Centre has highly advanced, non-invasive treatments to suit your skin's needs. Get rid of your acne scars, dark spots, fine lines and wrinkles. Flaunt clear, rosy, youthful-looking skin. With Facial Care, you can look fabulous always! Call 892-SKIN (7546).

Paid Advertisement

LIFESTYLE

Coming after typhoon 'Milenyo,' the motivational author and speaker lifted Manila's storm-weary spirit



That 'Chicken Soup' guy, Jack Canfield

By Dinah R. Mallo
Contributor

WHEN IT COMES TO MOTIVATING and inspiring people, one name comes to mind: Jack Canfield.

Patron of the "Chicken Soup for the Soul" series should be familiar with the name. Canfield, the originator and co-creator of the New York Times No. 1 best-selling series, is considered one of the world's leading experts in the development and maximization of the human potential.

Manila got a rare again of Canfield's knowledge and expertise recently when the Institute for Training and Development, in partnership with Jobstreet.com and Powerbooks, brought him back to the country for the second Mega Goals Event of the Year—the Personal Excellence and Organizational Success Summit—at the Crowne Plaza Galleria. The event drew more than 300 leaders of local businesses and organizations.

"The timing was right [in that] we just survived a very strong typhoon... we needed the inspiration," said ITE Center head Imelda M. Cortez. "He's like a ray of sunshine. His presence just brightens up the room."

Dr Steve Chan, president and CEO of ITE, explained the importance of bringing Canfield to the country.

"To be the best, you have to learn from the best," Chan said.

During the seminar, Canfield shared a few of the key strategies from his book "The Success Principles: How to Get from Where You Are to Where You Want to Be," which has

Amazing! 50%off

Sony Ericsson

Buy (1) one Sony Ericsson P990i or K800i or J100i and get J100i at half the price.

Promo Period: Oct. 06 to Oct. 22, 2006

J100i

SEMICON

The Clinically proven, Dermatologist-tested Skin Whitening System That Really Works!

Discover the power of a great combination in skin whitening – Vitamin C and Green Papaya Enzyme in Hype Duo Intensive Whitening Soap with Glycostech™

HYPE Skin Whitening products have been studied and tested by leading clinical researchers and dermatologists and found to be more effective than other whitening brands.

How does it work?
Hype Duo Intensive Whitening Soap is infused with:
1. Vitamin C - The Wonder Anti-Oxidant!
- Suppresses formation of melanin - the pigment that is the main cause of skin darkening
- One of the most powerful anti-oxidants that keeps skin healthy and protects against environmental hazards
- Promotes collagen formation - the secret to younger, smoother, and radiant skin
2. Green Papaya Enzyme - The Great Exfoliant!
- Whitens the skin by removing dead skin cells to eventually reveal fairer, younger looking skin - faster and safer
- Clarifies the skin through the exfoliation process

The Glycostech™ Benefit:
Hype Duo Whitening uses one of the most advanced technologies in skin care - The Glycostech™, a French patented technology that:
- Allows quick penetration of Vitamin C and Green Papaya Enzyme into the skin so it can work from the inside
- Stabilizes ingredients while it is inside the packaging and activates them once applied.

* Available at leading department stores and supermarkets nationwide.

For a limited time only, take advantage of this BREAKTHROUGH OFFER
50% OFF

WHITER SKIN WITHOUT THE DRYNESS AND IRRITATION!

(Whiter, smoother, glowing skin) X2

HYPE

FULLY BOOKED TOP 10 BESTSELLERS

1. "Fragile Things," by Neil Gaiman

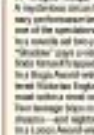
A mysterious circus lion thrills an audience during an astounding performance before disappearing into the night, taking one of the spectators along with it...

In a miracle set two years after thousands of "Americans Gone," "Shoshin" pays a visit to an ancient Japanese mansion, and finds himself trapped in a game of murder and mistaken identity...

In a Hugo Award-winning short story set in a strangely different Victorian England, the great detective Sherlock Holmes must solve a most unsettling mystery indeed...

Two teenage boys crash a dance party and meet the rulers of their dreams—and nightmares...

In a Locus Award-winning tale, the members of an eclectic circus discover (to their delight) that they've outlet everything that can be made, while the remainder of a legendary, rare and exceedingly dangerous Egyptian blend...



Such marvelous creations and more are telling a short story set in the world of "The Monkey" and others can be the secrets of perfect love and childhood's fathom, can be found within other literary collections. Then, which showcases Neil Gaiman's strong writing brilliance.

2. "Schadenfreude"—The Lost Colony," by Kate Collier

Ten thousand years ago, humans and fairies fought a great battle for the magical island of Ireland. When it became clear to the fairy families that they could never win, they decided to move their precious enchantments and keep themselves hidden from the human. Within the fairy families agreed on this, the magic the eighth family, the dolmens. The dolmens planned to fill their small allotment of time until they had regrouped and were ready to wage war on the humans once more. However, the time spell went wrong, and the island of Ireland was plunged into darkness. Under, where it has remained for ten thousand years.

Now the fabled three-quill is determining and decisions are being sucked back into the present tense and time. This fairy council is concerned about this and is monitoring any recent alterations. But when the quills' powers are depleted, the council members themselves become uncontrollable. Even the fairy scientists cannot figure out when the next dolmen will pop out.

But someone can. Artemis Fowl, teenage criminal mastermind, has solved forensic questions that no normal human should be intelligent enough to understand. But the former continent and frightened dimension up to any Scottish theater, "Artemis Fowl" is there to meet him. Unfortunately, he is not the only one. A second, mysterious party has also solved the time-travel questions, and has managed to abduct the dolmen before Artemis can ensure him. Once again, Artemis Fowl "lands on just up with his old nemesis, Captain Holly Short, to track down the missing dolmen and rescue him, before the time spell disorders completely, and the local dolmen colony is forever unlovely to Earth.

3. "Love in the Time of Cholera," by Gabriel Garcia Marquez

Florentino Ariza has never forgotten his first love. He has waited nearly a lifetime in silence, since his beloved Fermina married an older man. His woman can replace her in his heart. But now her husband is dead. Finally—after 51 years, nine months and four days—Florentino has an opportunity to declare his eternal love and win her hand. Will love that has survived half a century remain unrequited?

4. "The Other Boy," by Mitch Albom

For "The Other Boy" is the story of a mother and a son, and a relationship that crosses a lifetime and beyond. It explores the questions Albom considers if you could spend one more day with a cherished one?

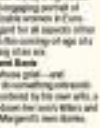
What follows is the one "ordinary" day in many of us years for a disease to make good on this sad pledge. It unpacks the family secrets and a lifetime of memories. Somewhere between this life and the next, Charley learns the astonishing things he never knew about his mother and her sacrifices. And he rises, with his tender guidance, to put the unfinished pieces of his family together.

5. "Rio de Kakinada: The Journey," by Rakesh Pawar

France's extravagant queen, Marie Antoinette, wrongly accused of ushering the nine words "Let them eat cake," was the subject of which she and curiously even before her death, she has since been the object of rumors and speculation and the fascination of often accorded tragic figures in history. Married to many politicians, this queen was extremely lighthearted, but often was unremarkable children. Raised to an unparalleled time and place, and was commanded by circumstances to play a significant role in history. Antonia Fraser's lavish and engaging portrait of Marie Antoinette, one of the most misunderstood women in Europe, is a sympathetic and compassionate and tragic for all queens of other subject, uncovering the cruelty and ugly truths coming of age as a powerful woman. But who to be the unending star as an

6. "For the Love of My Son," by Margaret Davis

This is the story of an ordinary woman whose grief—and determination—led her to do extraordinary things. Margaret Davis's life was ordinary until her son was murdered by his own wife, a Filipino former prostitute, she traveled across continents to track down her son's killers and bring them to justice, and to rescue her grandchildren. Based on Margaret's own diaries, letters and e-mails, this title recounts the painful but utterly awe-inspiring story of a mother who caught up in the violent underbelly of her parents' failing marriage. It is a tale of fierce, ultimate, and sacrificial love that will touch the reader's heart. And it is a tale of how one woman, faced with terrible reality, had the strength to turn pain and grief into a powerful force for her son and some kind of healing for herself and the others who had suffered so terribly from the appalling death.



7. "Tuesdays With Dillon #13: The Plan—Part of the Solution," by Donaldson Dillon

Where to learn reports of a ghost haunting New Mexico City's subway tunnels, Donaldson sets out to investigate the story.

8. "Extremely Loud and Incredibly Close," by Jonathan Safran Foer

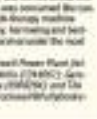
Nine-year-old Oskar Schell is an inventor, amateur entomologist, francophile, letter-writer, pacifist, natural historian, percussionist, conspiracy theorist, and lover of his father's closet. Oskar's father died in the attacks of September. Memories of his father is killed in the blast. The attacks on the World Trade Center. Oskar sets out to solve the mystery of a key he discovers in his father's closet. It is a search which leads him into the lives of strangers, through the five boroughs of New York, into history, to the bombings of Dresden and Hiroshima, and on an unusual journey which brings him ever closer to some kind of peace.

9. "A Good Year," by Peter Mayle

From Peter Mayle, wonderful new novel steeped in wine, famous, Provence. This is a delicious reading, soothing as with the sensual ambiance of the south of France. A heartwarming tale of the happily lucrative and compatible boutique wine trade. It is Peter Mayle's most satisfying, most delectable novel yet.

10. "Running with Scissors," by Augusten Burroughs

"Running with Scissors" is the true story of how a fifteen-year-old boy went with characters Augusten Burroughs grew up to be raised by her unorthodox psychiatrist who bore a striking resemblance to Santa Claus. Set at the age of 12, Burroughs found himself under the care of Dr. Finch, a self-made psychiatrist who lived in a house with no heat, electricity, and bathrooming was a bucket. Augusten's mother, a poet who suffered from bipolar disorder, was institutionalized, leaving Augusten to live with Dr. Finch and his family. Augusten's mother, a poet who suffered from bipolar disorder, was institutionalized, leaving Augusten to live with Dr. Finch and his family.



CANFIELD autographs a book for Sagalongos president Alexandra Prince Ramualdez (left), and pays a courtesy call on Manila Mayor Lito Atienza.

That 'Chicken Soup' guy, Jack Canfield

From page 31

been hailed as the blueprint for living a life of expanded results, greater respect and more accountable on the job performance.

Speaking before Tanay nine of America's leading authorities on the development of human potential and personal effectiveness, Canfield said: "Life is like a combination lock. Your job is to find the right numbers, in the right order, so you can have anything you want."

Among the principles Canfield emphasized were taking total responsibility for one's life and results, having a clear idea of one's purpose, believing in one's self, taking action, and persistence.

"If you practice these seven words if you work the principles," said the author.

21-cent dinner

But before all the success and the best-selling books, and before making it to the Guinness Book of World Records for having the most books on the New York Times Best-Seller List, Canfield used to survive on what he called as the "21-cent dinner."

Wanting to help his parents, he worked in a swimming pool lifeguard and as a theater's doorgatherer his father at, as made his earnings. To pay for his rent and other expenses, Canfield feasted on spaghetti: 10-cent can of tomato paste, garlic salt, and water over an 11-cent bag of spaghetti noodles. It may not have been much but it was enough to keep him going.

WITH President Macapagal-Arroyo in Malacañang

After graduate school, Canfield taught history in a Chicago high school where he met his mentor, W. Clement Stone, a self-made millionaire. Stone gave Canfield a job in his foundation where he was trained in the fundamental success principles that he still applies today.

Sharing the joy

Before leaving Manila, Canfield met the PDI group made a courtesy call on President Macapagal-Arroyo in Malacañang. The visit was also graced by lecturers premiere family Pentecostal member.

Canfield also had small talk with Manila Mayor Lito Atienza.

"He has very good things to say about us Filipinos," Atienza said. "He sees the joy you that he said we must not lose."

For his remarks 1996, Asian Regional Training and Development Organization International secretary general, Jack Canfield has extended our appreciation. He displayed great clarity, warmth and enthusiasm, which are vital elements in the pursuit of one's overarching goal. At 62, Jack is surprisingly agile, sharp and brilliant. His charisma is matched only by his stamina."

E-mail the author at dmacfie@yahoo.com

Fellows named to writers' workshop

THE 4TH ANDRES NATIONAL WRITERS' Workshop will be held Oct. 13-16. This year's fellows are Nina Claire E. Madrinan, Jose Claro C. Delos Reyes and Ramon F. Conde (poetry in Filipino); Anna Clara Gil Ibarra (poetry in English); and Jose Dalisay Jr., Lourdes S. Portugal, C. Rangbiel Tiu and Alessandra Rose B. Filipel (poem in English). Catherine Sanchez Bicol, April Camille Roman and Christopher Cenido (short fiction in Filipino); Liz Jade R. Bolalin, Ria Elenor O. Uy and Marjorie Evasco (short fiction in English); and Ferdinand Ian Sia and Alfredo B. Hua (one-act play).

Award-winning poets and fictionists will be the workshop's panelists: Alexis Abola, Jose Wey Ayroso, Rebel Atibis, Roman Capulong, Charlie Comeau, Marjorie Evasco, Alberto Jocker, Angelo Lacuesta, Susan Lara, Marco Lopez, Allan Pegis, Jerry Respeto, Ian Cruz Reyes, Edgar Samar, Rosalie Sanchez, Alvin Yapan and Larry Yeh.

The workshop is organized by the Ateneo Institute of Literary Arts and Practices headed by Amelia Lacuesta, with the help of the National Commission on Culture and the Arts.

Deadline for essay-writing tilt extended to Nov. 15

THE FIRST-EVER NATIONAL Essay Writing Contest jointly organized by the Philippine Graphic News Weekly magazine and entrepreneurship and leadership organization Junior Chamber International Philippines or Philippine Jaycees has extended its deadline from the original Oct. 15 to Nov. 15.

The extension aims to accommodate entries coming in from the Visayas and Mindanao regions.

The contest is endorsed by the National Commission for Culture and the Arts, the Department of Education and the Commission on Higher Education, and is supported by Chowking, Coca-Cola, Powerbooks, Pacific Executive Group, Philippine Aerospace and Computing Corporation, and the Office of Sen. Pia Cayetano and Rep. Gilbert Remulla.

The contest has three categories—high school, college and professional—and takes the theme, "The Motherhood of Man Transcends the Sovereignty of Nations."

The 10 requires entrants to submit a 700- to 800-word essay on the said theme, which should be attended in short bond paper using point 12 Times New Roman or Arial font. The name of the author or any identifying marks must not be found in the entry. Essays should be submitted in five copies, enclosed in a short brown envelope and sent to: The Board of Judges, Philippine Graphic Philippine Jaycees National Essay Writing Contest, 3/F Gumboga III Bldg., Dela Rosa corner Buenig Tano, Makati 1225.

Entry forms may be obtained from the weekly issue of Philippine Graphic, and the Monday issue of Business Mirror.

Call 811-9811.

Nonfiction bestsellers from PowerBooks

'Rich Dad, Poor Dad,' by Robert Kiyosaki

Robert Kiyosaki developed his unique economic perspective through exposure to a pair of close-in influences: his now-legally-retired best friend's wealthy father, and the traditionalistic eighth-grade dropout father of his closest friend. The lifelong monetary problems experienced by his "poor dad" (whose weekly paycheck, while respectable, never never quite sufficient to meet them) is sweetly reminded home the counter-point communicated by his "rich dad" (first "the poor and the middle class work for money." but "the rich have money to work for them").

'The 48 Laws of Power,' by Robert Greene

Greene and Elliot have teamed up before in Machiavelli's "Prince," espousing principles such as, everyone wants more power; emotions, including love, are detrimental, down and manipulation are fellow passions to be. Anyone desiring the psychological health will be put off in the start, but the authors counter, saying "honesty is indeed a poor strategy," and "genuinely innocent people may still be playing for power." Aimed at immoral, this compendium aims to guide those who endorse power as a ruthless game, and will eventually the rest.

'The Elements of Style,' by William Strunk, E. B. White; Roger Angell (foreword)

Asserting that one must first know the rules to break them, this classic reference book is a must-have for any student and conscientious writer. Intended for use in which the practice of composition is combined with the study of literature, it gives a brief space the principal requirements of plain English style and concern.

Issues
attention on the rules of usage
and principles of composition most commonly violated.

Powerbooks has branches at Greenhills 4 (tel. 7576458 to 59), SM Megamall (6324886 to 99), Alabang Town Center (8504818 to 816), Glorietta 5 (7527875), Shangri-La (6380823/28), Robinsons Place Ermita (5220334/5349488), and SM Mall of Asia (5364244).

FOXTROT

BY BILL AMEND

A. LIPIN

BY JOJO ABREN

BABY BLUES

By JERRY SCOTT

PUGAD BABOY

BY PH. JUNIOR

NUTS

BY PATRICK MCDONNELL

LOVEKNOTS

BY ELIZABETH CHONGCO

ATOMO AND WEBBY

BY LYRA GARCELLANO

DIVINE COMEDY

BY STEVEN RAMIREZ

RIRO MACHINE

BY MARK ABERA

MAKINGKOSMOS

BY JOHNES TEJIDO

TULOSK

BY PAPU AND TATUM HILARIDES, INC.

MEH

BY DANIEL SHELTON

DAILY CROSSWORD

ACROSS
1 Some goggle gets
5 Grammy's song
10 Type of shark
14 Mystique
15 Not a chance!
16 Time of knowledge site
17 Soap shop
20 Sad
21 Chemistry or Hanes
22 Assigned an identity
23 Amateur
24 Most reasonable
25 Assert without proof
29 Dirty getting
30 Seen lately
31 Congressional
32 Small outlaw
33 Someone in a pinch
35 [Mmm!] ain't
36 Business agent
41 Fossil conifer
42 Little Shepherd's
43 Fancy ballroom accessory
44 Infield
45 English lesson
46 Lotion-dropper
50 Where to play
51 Kind of jail or bag
54 Sink section
55 Improve on a draft
59 Stones in fortuneline
60 Jagged cut
61 Minors
62 Sandwich
63 "Soldiers of the Purple Sage" author

DOWN
1 Stuff and puff
2 Mahogany genus
3 Persona (personality)
4 Semiskeletal
5 Forty-winks
6 Switchboard
7 [Ugh!]
8 Helen
9 Strong attack
10 Tom Sawyer
11 Date on
12 Softball features
13 Forty range
18 Hanging
19 Maggie's dog
23 Bunch of bother
24 Discovered
25 Night-night sign
26 Upon the job
27 Why
28 Addictive
29 Bundle of dry goods
30 Ran
32 Ages and ages and ages
33 Poop, e.g.
34 Soul singer Franklin
36 Most fat texture?
37 Hush! [shh! sh]
38 Hallows
40 Tuesday
43 Thanksgiving concoctions
44 Asian peninsula
46 Weed a strip
47 Pulitzer Captain
48 Pay up with
51 Television host Philbin
52 Typewriter
53 "The King and I" heroine
57 Circle a galaxy
58 Ultimatum word
59 Sore covered
60 Cost

By Diane C. Baldwin
Columbia, MO

10/16/06

Saturday's Puzzle Solved

HOROSCOPE

THIS WEEK TODAY: You have a strong sense of justice. You will always fight for the underdog. You're a forward-minded, intelligent, and fashionable person, you walk your talk. You're involved in society, and frequently advocate reform and improvements around you. You're independent, but you're also good at working as a team. You're excited enough this week to learn something very valuable from one.

ARIES (March 21 to April 20): Yesterday's confusion clears today in time for you to choose from single-down about clinical property. You're dreaming nearly once again. (Think goodness!)

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20): Set down with a partner or close friend to discuss practical solutions for the future. You want to know you have a safe thing at hand. Today you have the patience to consider every angle.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20): Listen to a particular, today your own accomplishments will speak for you. Not only are you willing to work hard for the money, you have the energy to follow through and get things done.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22): Parents might discuss their financial situation with you. Be prepared to offer suggestions for solutions. Romantic partners can also have practical, productive discussions about the future.

LEO (July 23 to Aug. 22): You are a go-getter, and you're not afraid to say so. Self-deprecating remarks aside, you're considered a leader by many, and you want to start with the hard tasks.

VIRGO (Aug. 23 to Sept. 22): Your shopping today, you're very interested in Aviation, long haul flights. You want value for your money. You love travel literature.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22): Whatever you do today will be done with care and attention to detail. You have a serious attitude toward everything. You might give someone an idea that will revolutionize their entire way of life.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21): Your best bet today is to be direct and clear in to avoid being misunderstood. You're willing to do a lot, but you need privacy. Never don't miss a chance at introspection from others.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21): Little time from someone older or more experienced for you. You don't have to worry about the where. Why not place on the shoulders of those who have experience?

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 19): Parents, parents and GPs are important to you today. You're willing to listen to advice. Furthermore, you're willing to act on it.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20 to Feb. 18): You're an excellent way to make your younger peers feel comfortable. Confiding, confessing, the media, going back to school, or even a trip to the grocery store, today is a good day to make connections and travel. You can what needs to be done.

PISCES (Feb. 19 to March 20): Respect your elders today. Take their advice seriously. Tackle assisted without a fuss. Your attitude is very, today is a good day to make the most of things. You want a deep understanding of what's expected from you.

CONCEPTIS SU DOKU

Conceptis Sudoku

by Dave Green

		4				5		
	1		4	6	7		9	
6			3		5			7
	9	1	8		2	6	7	
	6						8	
	7	5	6		3	2	4	
3			9		8			6
	8		5	3	1		2	
		7				8		

Difficulty Level ★

HOW TO PLAY SU DOKU

Fill the grid so that every column, every row and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1 to 9.
Tips and programs at www.sudoku.com

Answer to previous puzzle

1	7	9	6	5	2	3	8	4
2	8	6	4	1	9	7	5	3
4	5	3	2	7	8	1	9	6
9	4	8	7	2	6	5	1	3
6	1	5	9	8	3	4	2	7
3	2	7	5	4	1	9	6	8
7	9	1	3	6	4	8	3	5
5	3	2	8	9	7	6	4	1
8	6	4	1	3	5	2	7	9

Difficulty level ★★★★★

Mag goes bag-crazy

BAG ADDICTS, UNITE! READ UP on the latest bag designs in the October issue of Metro Magazine—from the Hermès Birkin to the Fendi Spy, from the IT Papillon to local bag designer. Check out the world's most expensive designer bags—have to buy them as investments, and how to tell a fake from the genuine article.

Also read our women's experience in breast implants, and how they may have been related to her breast cancer.

Feast your eyes on hot hairs and drop dead dresses, and find out how to cut to combat wrinkles, how to get great abs, and how to wear colors, whatever your age.

Bernie Sudilla gives a heartfelt interview on life after widowhood.

Angel Locsin is cover girl.

Get a chance to win over P600,000 in prizes in the Metro Top Model launch or a vacation trip to Palawan in Metro's subscription promo.

The October issue of Metro is available nationwide.

Focus on Kenneth Cobonpue

Meanwhile, in the latest issue of Metro Home & Entertaining, read about international award-winning homeware designer Kenneth Cobonpue and what inspires him.

See the interiors of the studios of Manila's top photographers Ramon Salvacion and Frank Rodriguez.

Lots's stylish supermodel Ivi Mes, decor and interiors.

Also various event magazine parties thrown by the metro's most interesting hosts...and guess who were invited.

Metro Home & Entertaining is available nationwide.

Book on Leyte history

TO MARK THE 62ND ANNIVERSARY of the Leyte Landing of the Allied forces during World War II, New Day Publishers will release "The Colonial Odyssey of Leyte (1521–1914)," by professor Rolando O. Borrinaga and Fr. Casimiro J. Kalaak, OFM, on Oct. 20 at the 27th National Conference on Local and National History of the Philippine National Historical Society at the Leyte Normal University, Tacloban City.

The 350-page book is the English translation of the general history chapters of "Sayuda de la Provincia de Leyte" by Spanish-Filipino historian and writer Manuel Amigos y Cuenca, originally published in 1914.

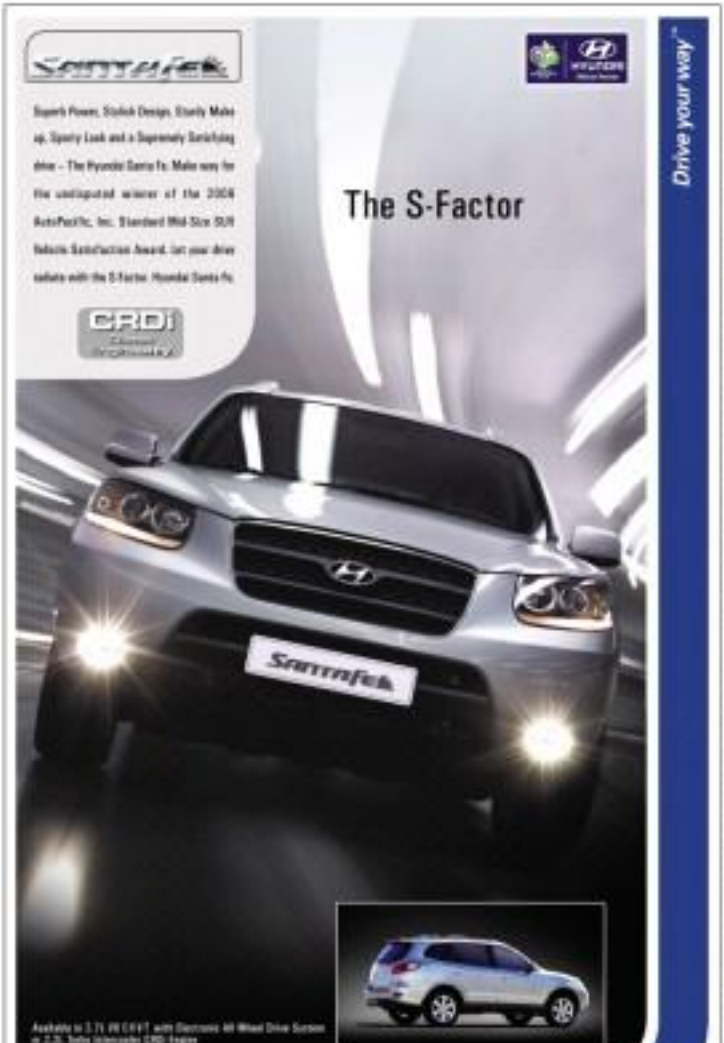
The original Spanish text is a trailblazing work and is believed to be the country's earliest local history on Leyte and the Visayas.

Borrinaga is co-founder of the Leyte-based multinational Kabiligan Renaissance Group, which continues to research and reexamine the historic events surrounding the Balangiga Conflict in 1906.

The late Father Kalaak is a Belgian-born American Franciscan priest who arrived for 30 years in the Philippines, 10 of them in the Leyte-Samar region as educator, curator and researcher on Visayan history and culture. He spent another 10 years in securing the 9,000 manuscript of Antipas' Boxella.

Bernardito Reyes Chevalier, president of the Philippine National Historical Society, said the book will help provide a more organized historiography which is still focused on "Imperial Manila."

Call 8288040 or 8375982 or e-mail newdayorders@yahoo.com.ph.



Hyundai Starex PRO: Making it big in Business

ENTERTAINMENT

Famas splinter group gives out own awards

By Bayani San Diego Jr.
Photos by Rony Homillada

FOLLOWING A protracted court battle with former colleagues, the Famas breakaway group led by Cel. Jimmy Tirona up its own awards-giving body named Maria Clara, after the country's pioneering movie awards group in the 1950s and the predecessor of Famas (or the Filipino Academy of Movie Arts and Sciences).

It's named Maria Clara, after the country's first movie awards and Famas' predecessor

The 2006 Maria Clara Awards was held on Oct. 13 at the Golden Screen Cinema Theater in Greenhills, Manila, according to its president Tito Bejar. Filme "Blue Moon" was declared Best Picture, with its director Joel Lamangan topping the "filmmakers' category.

Lead acting performances in the stars of "Dubai" Claudine Barretto and Agot Isidro.

John Lloyd Cruz, Baron Geisler and Richard's co-star in "Dubai," led the Best Supporting Actor race, while Shiela Rotaiel won Best Supporting Actress for "Inanay Ka Man."

Star Dialogs' mainstay Jo "Jolo" Gerbo won Best Child Performer for "Kinder."

None of the major winners were present at the awards ceremony last Friday.

Barretto, who was signing a soap opera with Piolo Pascual ("Walang Kapalit") in Tagaytay, sent her message in Bastida Interviewers, via SMS. "My sincerest gratitude to the people behind Maria Clara. This award inspires me more to improve in my craft."

Lamangan was also unable to personally accept his award because he was shooting

(SPAN 11

Hollywood outfit to finance local films

By Marinel R. Cruz

"THERE ARE NO HARD AND FAST RULES as we are looking for a story set in the Philippines about the Philippines," declared Tinnie Borden, head of the script committee tasked to choose films that would receive incentives from Bigfoot Entertainment.

The Cebu-based Hollywood production outfit has announced that it is willing to finance or co-produce films with "Filipino concept and English script" for as much as $1,000,000 to $2 million.

Borden, Bigfoot's director of creative development, will head the five-member panel. The committee will be composed of Bigfoot story-editor Marina Erigal, chief operating officer Jane-Hart Lubrelich, chief executive officer Kathy Andrews and marketing head Hilda Lopez, said Borden in a recent phone interview with Inquirer Entertainment.

Borden added that the committee decided not to draw up a set of guidelines as "not to restrict the creative thinking" of our local writers and filmmakers. He pointed out that the committee "doesn't want to encumber them in any way."

What is important, said Borden, is for the creator to be culturally relevant to those here in the Philippines. "Meaning it should not be scripts about outer space aliens, suddenly erupting volcanoes or huge airplane chases," Borden explained. "The point is not important but the budget is. They should also keep the budget in mind."

He added: "It has to have an international appeal. At the end of the day it's about making and selling movies. It would be good for the Philippines if the films could be sold abroad."

Borden, who headed the production team of the Hollywood film "Catch Me If You Can," also took notice of the Filipino film industry's resurgence in recent years. He cited Marilyn Mancia. "I have nothing against this practice because that is also done in countries like Germany, France and Belgium," he pointed out. "But I believe that Filipino films would be more effective if filmmakers also give consideration to audiences in other parts of the world."

He suggested: "Include one character, possibly a foreigner, in your movie that could help provide a different perspective to your audience. If this would be the case, you would now have to explain what a jeepney is, or why people here eat balut or adobo. Your film would take on an entirely different point of view."

Bigfoot recently entered into a partnership with the Film Development Council of the Philippines (FDCP) to develop a structure to define the working parameters for finding the right film.

"But our group has yet to discuss this with the FDCP," said Borden. "We don't have the exact criteria yet. But when we decide which films to produce, we consider four factors: story, character, theme and marketability."

The pledged fund is not limited to features and could also be used for music videos and documentaries. Bigfoot has already partially funded and/or fully produced the films "I, Weedie" (Thom Fitzgerald), "Shanghai Kiss" (Kevin Reinmore and David Reid), "The Curious of Chance" (Ted Hilderbrandt), Bert's Check (Jerrold Tarog and Russell J. Molteno) and the documentary "2103 Cooper: The Return to Ochoa Bar" (Daniel Nunez).

WOMEN AT Svenson
End Your Hair Loss Misery Today
Call 892-HAIR (4247)
MAKATI | TOMAS MORATO | MANDAUE | ALABANG | CEBU

The Answer to FALLING HAIR:
Hair Reinforcer Remedy

Falling hair should not be taken lightly. It is not just a cosmetic problem, it can lead to something more serious. If left unresolved, this condition can progress to extreme hair loss and may result in permanently thinning hair. Svenson has formulated the Hair Reinforcer Remedy to control your falling hair and bring back its fullness and volume. You won't need to worry about your falling hair any more.

Save your hair. Call Svenson and stop your hair loss now!

A PEKAS-FREE Philippines with Pynocare

The homegrown of the subtitled Pynocare users continue to grow from as far North of Baguio to as far South as Cebu and Davao.

BE PEKAS-FREE NOW.

No Pills. No Chemicals. No Lasers. No Pain.
Just 2 capsules a day for at least 8 weeks and BE PEKAS-FREE.

AVAIL OF THE Pynocare P123 - Peso Bonus Promo!

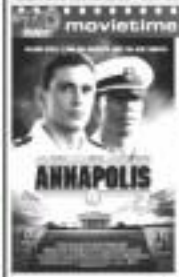
Promo exclusive in selected Mercury drug outlets
Promo starts on September 23 on limited run only.

MEGA

SM CINEMA

movietime SHOWTIME
Your life as a movie

movietime exclusive presentation



OPENS OCTOBER 18

COMING SOON

•Oct 25 BOX 8 •Nov 1 INVINCIBLE •Nov 22 THANK YOU FOR SMOKING

MOVIE MARATHON

MARK
TIMES
(NOT VALID ON OPENING DAY)
(NOT VALID ON 3D)
(MARATHON RETURNS)
ALIVE
MY FIRST WEDDING
THE DEPARTED
OPEN SEASON
MARRIAGE
DEAD OR ALIVE: WHO

THE GUARDIAN
(TILL I MET YOU)
THE DEPARTED

THE GUARDIAN
(TILL I MET YOU)
OPEN SEASON
(MY FIRST WEDDING)
(MARRIAGE)
(PULSE)
(TILL I MET YOU)
(FIRST DAY HIGH)
(THE GUARDIAN)
(OPEN SEASON)
(THE DEPARTED)
(DEAD OR ALIVE)
(TILL I MET YOU)
(MY BOYS)

(THE GUARDIAN)
(TILL I MET YOU)
(MY FIRST WEDDING)
(FIRST DAY HIGH)
(DEAD OR ALIVE)
(TILL I MET YOU)
(THE GUARDIAN)
(THE DEPARTED)
(MARRIAGE)
(PULSE)
(MY FIRST WEDDING)
(THE DEPARTED)

(THE GUARDIAN)
(TILL I MET YOU)
(OPEN SEASON)
(THE DEPARTED)
(THE BRIDE)
(MARRIAGE)
(FIRST DAY HIGH)
(DEAD OR ALIVE)
(TILL I MET YOU)
(MY BOYS)

(THE GUARDIAN)
(TILL I MET YOU)
(MY FIRST WEDDING)
(THE DEPARTED)
(PULSE)
(MY FIRST WEDDING)
(THE BRIDE)
(FIRST DAY HIGH)
(THE GUARDIAN)
(TILL I MET YOU)
(TILL I MET YOU)

(THE GUARDIAN)
(TILL I MET YOU)
(OPEN SEASON)
(THE DEPARTED)
(MARRIAGE)
(STEP UP)
(FIRST DAY HIGH)
(TILL I MET YOU)
(OPEN SEASON)
(MARRIAGE)
(PULSE)
(TILL I MET YOU)
(TILL I MET YOU)

(THE GUARDIAN)
(TILL I MET YOU)
(THE DEPARTED)
(STEP UP)

(TILL I MET YOU)
(FIRST DAY HIGH)
(THE GUARDIAN)
(TILL I MET YOU)
(PULSE)

(STEP UP)
(TILL I MET YOU)
(FIRST DAY HIGH)
(MY BOYS)

(THE GUARDIAN)
(TILL I MET YOU)
(THE DEPARTED)
(MARRIAGE)
(PULSE)

(MY FIRST WEDDING)
(FIRST DAY HIGH)
(DEAD OR ALIVE)
(TILL I MET YOU)

(THE GUARDIAN)
(TILL I MET YOU)
(THE BRIDE)
(FIRST DAY HIGH)
(DEAD OR ALIVE)
(TILL I MET YOU)

(OPEN SEASON)
(THE GUARDIAN)
(TILL I MET YOU)
(DEAD OR ALIVE)
(FIRST DAY HIGH)

(STEP UP)
(TILL I MET YOU)
(FIRST DAY HIGH)
(MY BOYS)
(THE GUARDIAN)
(TILL I MET YOU)
(DEAD OR ALIVE)
(TILL I MET YOU)

(THE GUARDIAN)
(TILL I MET YOU)
(FIRST DAY HIGH)
(DEAD OR ALIVE)
(TILL I MET YOU)

(STEP UP)
(TILL I MET YOU)
(FIRST DAY HIGH)
(MY BOYS)

(THE GUARDIAN)
(TILL I MET YOU)
(FIRST DAY HIGH)
(DEAD OR ALIVE)
(TILL I MET YOU)

(THE DEPARTED)
(OPEN SEASON)
(TILL I MET YOU)
(DEAD OR ALIVE)
(FIRST DAY HIGH)
(MY BOYS)

(THE GUARDIAN)
(TILL I MET YOU)
(DEAD OR ALIVE)
(FIRST DAY HIGH)
(THE BRIDE)

(STEP UP)
(TILL I MET YOU)
(FIRST DAY HIGH)
(MY BOYS)
(THE GUARDIAN)
(TILL I MET YOU)

(THE DEPARTED)
(OPEN SEASON)
(TILL I MET YOU)
(DEAD OR ALIVE)
(FIRST DAY HIGH)
(MY BOYS)

(DEAD OR ALIVE)
(TILL I MET YOU)
(THE BRIDE)

movietime

See it first at SM Cinema

WORLD TRADE CENTER
October 16, 2006
SM Megamall Cinema 1, 7:30 p.m.
REGULAR SHOWING ON OCTOBER 18

(THE BRIDE)
(FIRST DAY HIGH)
(THE GUARDIAN)
(DEAD OR ALIVE)
(PULSE)
(TILL I MET YOU)
(THE DEPARTED)
(MY FIRST WEDDING)

LEGEND

(THE GUARDIAN)
(THE DEPARTED)
(THE BRIDE)
(FIRST DAY HIGH)
(DEAD OR ALIVE)
(TILL I MET YOU)

(SCOOP)
(TILL I MET YOU)
(WICKER MAN)
(FIRST DAY HIGH)

WEEKEND MATINEE

(THE BRIDE)
(RESERVE)
(WICKER MAN)
(FIRST DAY HIGH)
(TILL I MET YOU)
(OPEN SEASON)
(RESERVE)
(MY BOYS)

(THE DEPARTED)
(WICKER MAN)
(TILL I MET YOU)
(DEAD OR ALIVE)
(FIRST DAY HIGH)
(THE BRIDE)

(THE GUARDIAN)
(TILL I MET YOU)
(DEAD OR ALIVE)
(TILL I MET YOU)
(THE BRIDE)

movietime PROMO

Watch and Win at SM Cinema

NOW SHOWING

CDs, JIMMY Tia gives the honors.
EDWIN ROMULO

Famas splinter group . . .

from page F1

the movie "Queen Emmanuel" in Lupao. Nevertheless, he gave this statement to the Inquirer in a phone interview: "What else can I say but thank you. I am very grateful for the recognition."

The subdued (but the stars' non-attendance was due to their group's traditional projection time. "We only had three days to invite the winners, it was short notice."

Other winners are: Screenplay, Ricky Lee and Glaiza Mella Salvador ("Dahas"); Story, Allan Ramos ("Blue Moon"); Cinematography, Odyssey Flerida ("Blue Moon"); Editing, Shirya Ignacio ("Dahas"); Sound, Arnold Reodica ("Dahas"); Musical Score, Jessie Lasaw ("Can This Be Love"); Theme Song, "Blue Moon"; Production Design, Richard Somes ("Tisoy"); Special Effects, Imaginary Friends ("Gamera Rahimas 2"); Visual Effects, Ignite Media ("Kaochi").

Special awards were accorded to President Macapagal-Arroyo (Presidential Achievement Award), Marcelling Morato (Achievement for Wise Restriction in Cinema and Television), Donna Villa Ella Jose Perez Memorial Award) and Dr. Alejandro Roces (Legacy Award).

Except for the President, all the special award honorees were present.

According to Tia, "Dr. Roces, the father of the original Maria Clara awards, allowed us to use the name and continue the legacy of the country's first movie awards."

As Padua, current Famas president, insisted that the people behind Maria Clara are "expelled, AWOL and resigned members of famas."

But Padua told the Inquirer in a phone interview that he had no plans of scrapping the Maria Clara by filing a Temporary Restraining Order (TRO). "She [Tia] did, the reason why Famas didn't push through on July 15."

"I have nothing to do with Maria Clara," Padua said. He added that he would rather focus on organizing the Famas awards show in the third week of November.

"We are considering two possible venues. We are also eyeing a co-production deal with a TV network," he said.

ARANETA CENTER

Cubelay MALL GreenPlaza

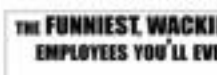
Cinema CineEspacio

OPEN SEASON	TAXI DRIVER MASACRE	THE GUARDIAN	
PULSE	THE DEPARTED	TILL I MET YOU	
MY FIRST WEDDING	MARRIED	DEAD OR ALIVE: YAKUZA WARS	THE GUARDIAN

MALL 5

TILL I MET YOU	THE GUARDIAN	TAXI DRIVER MASACRE	
DEAD OR ALIVE	MY FIRST WEDDING		

For more information, call 911-5555 or log on to robinsons.com.ph & arenacenter.com



THE FUNNIEST, WACKIEST, AND NAUGHTIEST EMPLOYEES YOU'LL EVER MEET IN YOUR LIFE

MONDAY, OCTOBER 16, 2006

ENTERTAINMENT

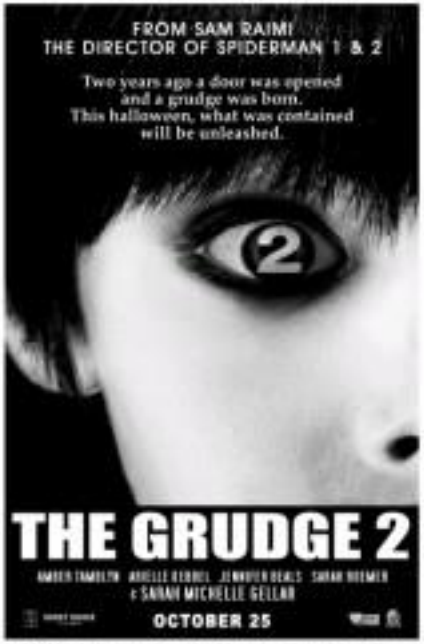
DID YOU KNOW...

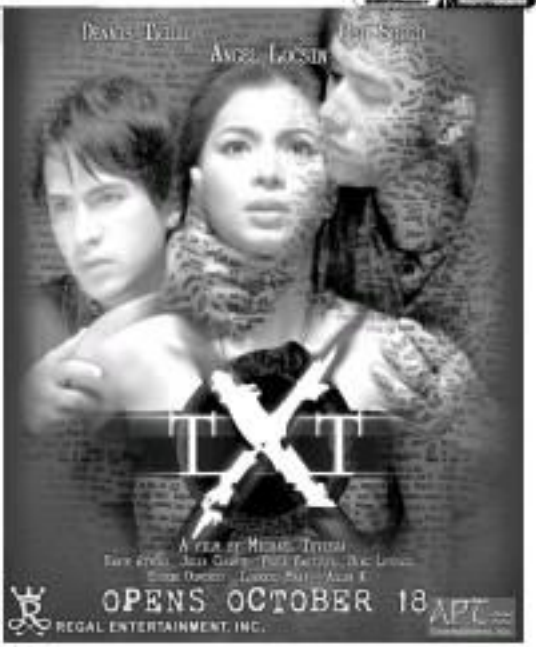
'Dollhouse' zones cast

LOS ANGELES — FILMING FOR A MOVIE VERSION OF THE 1973 soap opera "Dallas" has been delayed after a decision to swap most of the cast, Variety reported here Friday.

Pilade John Ewardes is still on board, with villain J.R. Ewing, sister Shirley MacLaine, Meg Ryan and Luke Wilson are no longer in, Variety reported.

Shooting had been due to get underway in November. AFP





ROBINSONS MOVIEWORLD CINEMAS MOVIE GUIDE

CINEMA ACCESS
635-5555
FOR ALL BRANCHES

www.robinsonsmovieworld.com

MOVIES/SCHEDULES/PRICES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE

GALLERIA

1 THE DEPARTED • TRX
2 TILL I MET YOU
3 TEXAS CHAINSAW MASSACRE
4 OPEN SEASON Sneak Preview
5 THE GUARDIAN
6 TWILIGHT DANCERS
7 BARNYARD
8 PULSE
9 STEP UP
10 MY FIRST WEDDING

ERMITA

1 TILL I MET YOU
2 TEXAS CHAINSAW MASSACRE
3 BARNYARD
4 MY FIRST WEDDING
5 THE DEPARTED
6 OPEN SEASON Sneak Preview
7 THE GUARDIAN

METRO EAST

1 OPEN SEASON Sneak Preview
2 TILL I MET YOU
3 THE DEPARTED
4 BARNYARD
5 PULSE
6 MY FIRST WEDDING
7 THE GUARDIAN
8 TEXAS CHAINSAW MASSACRE

NOVALICHES

1 THE TEXAS CHAINSAW MASSACRE
2 TILL I MET YOU
3 THE GUARDIAN
4 OPEN SEASON Sneak Preview
5 BARNYARD

CITISQUARE MALABON | PIONEER

1 FIRST DAY HIGH
2 TILL I MET YOU
3 RESERVE
4 RESERVE
1 THE GUARDIAN
2 BARNYARD
3 TILL I MET YOU
4 TEXAS CHAINSAW MASSACRE

Robinsons MOVIEWORLD
CAN be YOUR CINEMA!

IMAX | THX

STA. ROSA

1 THE GUARDIAN
2 DEAD OR ALIVE
3 TILL I MET YOU
4 STEP UP

LIPA

1 THE WICKER MAN
2 TILL I MET YOU
3 POSSESSED BY EVIL
4 TWILIGHT DANCERS

DASMARINAS

1 STEP UP
2 THE GUARDIAN
3 TILL I MET YOU
4 THE DEPARTED

ANGELES

1 THE GUARDIAN
2 TILL I MET YOU
3 POSSESSED BY EVIL
4 THE BREED

IMUS

1 THE DEPARTED
2 POSSESSED BY EVIL
3 TILL I MET YOU
4 THE GUARDIAN

STARMILLS

1 THE GUARDIAN
2 FIRST DAY HIGH
3 TILL I MET YOU
4 THE BREED
5 DEAD OR ALIVE
6 THE DEPARTED

BACOLOD

1 JOHN TUCKER MUST DIE
2 SNAKES ON A PLANE
3 TILL I MET YOU
4 CRANK
5 SCOOP
6 TWILIGHT DANCERS

ILOILO

1 FLY BOYS
2 TILL I MET YOU
3 THE BREED
4 JOHN TUCKER MUST DIE

The Perfect Gift All Year Round
A Pre Paid Movie Pass to the Hottest Seats in town.

MMTA
METRO MANILA THEATERS ASSOCIATION

MOVIE GUIDE
NOW SHOWING

Robinsons Cinemas
Greenhills Cinemas
Cinema 2000 Alabang
Cinema 2000 Festival Mall
Cinema 2000 Fairview Mall
Cinema 2000 Greenhills
Cinema 2000 Muntinlupa
Cinema 2000 Novaliches
Cinema 2000 Robinsons Galleria
Cinema 2000 Robinsons Metro East
Cinema 2000 Sta. Rosa
Cinema 2000 Trinoma
Cinema 2000 Vista Mall
Cinema 2000 Waltermart
Cinema 2000 Westgate
Cinema 2000 Zapote
Cinema 2000 Robinsons Place Manila
Cinema 2000 Robinsons Place Dasmarinas
Cinema 2000 Robinsons Place Iloilo
Cinema 2000 Robinsons Place Bacolod
Cinema 2000 Robinsons Place Lipa
Cinema 2000 Robinsons Place Imus
Cinema 2000 Robinsons Place Antipolo
Cinema 2000 Robinsons Place Pampanga
Cinema 2000 Robinsons Place Tacloban
Cinema 2000 Robinsons Place Cagayan de Oro
Cinema 2000 Robinsons Place Cebu
Cinema 2000 Robinsons Place Dumaguete
Cinema 2000 Robinsons Place Ormoc
Cinema 2000 Robinsons Place Roxas
Cinema 2000 Robinsons Place Tagbilaran
Cinema 2000 Robinsons Place Zamboanga
Cinema 2000 Robinsons Place General Santos
Cinema 2000 Robinsons Place Butuan
Cinema 2000 Robinsons Place Davao
Cinema 2000 Robinsons Place Iligan
Cinema 2000 Robinsons Place Puerto Princesa
Cinema 2000 Robinsons Place Tuguegarao
Cinema 2000 Robinsons Place Naga
Cinema 2000 Robinsons Place Legazpi
Cinema 2000 Robinsons Place Ozamiz
Cinema 2000 Robinsons Place Pagadian
Cinema 2000 Robinsons Place Cotabato
Cinema 2000 Robinsons Place Koronadal
Cinema 2000 Robinsons Place Tandag
Cinema 2000 Robinsons Place Surigao
Cinema 2000 Robinsons Place Tagum
Cinema 2000 Robinsons Place Bislig
Cinema 2000 Robinsons Place Gingoog
Cinema 2000 Robinsons Place Malaybalay
Cinema 2000 Robinsons Place Valencia
Cinema 2000 Robinsons Place Bukidnon
Cinema 2000 Robinsons Place Marawi
Cinema 2000 Robinsons Place Kidapawan
Cinema 2000 Robinsons Place Jolo
Cinema 2000 Robinsons Place Basilan
Cinema 2000 Robinsons Place Tawi-Tawi
Cinema 2000 Robinsons Place Sulu
Cinema 2000 Robinsons Place Zamboanga Sibugay
Cinema 2000 Robinsons Place Zamboanga del Norte
Cinema 2000 Robinsons Place Zamboanga del Sur

ROUNDUP

Rolling Stones on HGC

THE NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC CHANNEL "Inside" shows the Rolling Stones as the group kicks off Rio de Janeiro's carnival with a free concert for an estimated 1.5 million people.

Viewers can have a seat perch behind the setlist to share a few intimate moments with rock legends Sir Mick Jagger, Keith Richards, Ronnie Wood and Charlie Watts.

One of the world's most enduring rock bands gives the performances of their lives on the star-chocked shores of Brazil's most famous beach.

The episode airs on Oct. 23, 9 p.m.

'The Royal Wedding'

THE VIVAMAX MOVIE "THE PRINCE & ME 2: The Royal Wedding" continues the story of the 2003 Dooney romance movie "The Prince & Me."

Prince Edward (Luke Mitchell) and Paige (Kate Haddon) are just weeks away from the big day.

All things are going on as planned until a scandalous royal turmoil allows Lilac (Julie Gayo) a chance to end Danish law that forbids the commoners to keep if the prince wants to marry a commoner.

The video is available in DVD and VID at video stores nationwide.

POWER PLANT CINEMA

Rockwell Center, Makati City

SPIDER-MAN 3

TEXAS CHAINSAW MASSACRE: THE BEGINNING

SUPERMAN

THE DEPARTED

UFO FOR WEDDING

THE GUARDIAN

PG-13 | STRICTLY FOR 18 YEARS OF AGE AND UP

THE TALK-OF-THE-TOWN!

THE TRUE STORY OF DEMONIC EVIL, CANNIBALISM, AND SADISTIC RITUALS

THAT WILL KEEP YOU SCREAMING FROM BEGINNING TO END

THE #1 HORROR MOVIE IN AMERICA

NOW SHOWING

FROM MICHAEL BAY THE DIRECTOR OF PEARL HARBOR AND ARMAGEDDON

THE TEXAS CHAINSAW MASSACRE

THE BEGINNING

EXCLUSIVELY SHOWING ON THE 70 CINEMAS

EASTWOOD CINEMAS

697-6963

GUARANTEED SEATS

PG-13 | STRICTLY FOR 18 YEARS OF AGE AND UP

WEDDING ADVISORY: A WEDDING MOVIE FOR GROOM WHO ARE PLANNING TO GET MARRIED SOON

The FUNNIEST and CRAZIEST wedding comedy of the year from the company that gave you 'HOTTING HELL'!

To Win Her Heart, He Must Come Up with the Perfect Disguise.

RACHAEL LEIGH COOK

KEVIN DOBSON

NOW SHOWING

my first wedding

LAUGH TILL YOU DROP!

Sitti is back!!!

October 17 / 8:00 PM

Eastwood City Walk 2

FREE ADMISSION

Eastwood City

glorietta | GREENBELT | ALABANG TOWN CENTER | AYALA CENTER CEBU | MARKET! MARKET! | Ayala Malls

AT THE CINEMAS

TRX

G1	1 MY FIRST WEDDING	2 THE GUARDIAN	3 TEXAS CHAINSAW MASSACRE THE BEGINNING	4 TILL I MET YOU		
G4	1 CLOSED FOR RENOVATION	2 CLOSED FOR RENOVATION	3? CLOSED FOR RENOVATION			
	4 THE DEPARTED	5 SUPERMAN	6 THE GUARDIAN	7 TILL I MET YOU		
GB1	1 TEXAS CHAINSAW MASSACRE THE BEGINNING	2 TILL I MET YOU				
GB3	1? PRIDE AND PREJUDICE	2? THE GUARDIAN				
	3	4 THE DEPARTED	5 CLOSED FOR RENOVATION			
ATC	1? THE GUARDIAN	2 TILL I MET YOU				
	3 TEXAS CHAINSAW MASSACRE THE BEGINNING	4 SUPERMAN	5 THE DEPARTED			
ACC	1 THE GUARDIAN	2 TILL I MET YOU	3 FLYBOYS	4 THE DEPARTED		
M2	1 SUPERMAN	2 TILL I MET YOU				
	3 THE GUARDIAN	4 TEXAS CHAINSAW MASSACRE THE BEGINNING	5 CLOSED FOR RENOVATION			

At the Activity Center

GLORIETTA	TOWN
Ayala's Exhibit October 5 to 21, 2006	Automobile Center Exhibit October 13 to 21, 2007
AYALA CENTER CEBU	MARKET! MARKET!
Wound Hope's Limited Edition Collaboration October 20, 2006	Lagoon Expo October 20 to 29, 2006
	Lounge Nights at Greenbelt 3 October 19 & 20, 2006
Cinelagia	Repertory Philippines presents West Dream's AL ALKOW at REP's Virlan Theater - October 5 to 29, 2006
Ayala MUSEUM	19th - 20th Century Philippine Art from Ayala Museum Collection On going until January 2007 For inquiries, please call 757-7141 to 49 or visit www.ayalamuseum.org

Be among the first to watch at regular admission prices

SPECIAL SNEAK PREVIEW

OPEN SEASON

October 16 (Mon.) & 17 (Tue.)

GLORIETTA 4 • GREENBELT 3

ALABANG TOWN CENTER

WEEKEND HOT TREATS!

For a minimum Powercard load worth P200, customer gets a free Van Gogh Portrait (Save as much as P70)

Promo valid on the following dates:

October 7-8, 14-15, 21-22, 28-29

Participating outlets: Glorietta 4, Market!Market!, Alabang Town Center, Greenbelt 3, and Ayala Center Cebu

TIMEZONE

We can't do anything about sequels. But we can tell you their schedule.

Luk4A mobile-pelenyagan

The Jerks' Chickoy Pura goes it alone in My Brother's Mustache

Solo flight

Review

By Pocholo Concepcion
Contributor

CHICKOY PURA PLAYING SOLO ON acoustic guitar is a joyful event in itself. For him to do so weekly on Thursdays in a place called My Brother's Mustache in Quezon City makes it even more interesting.

The gig is a sort of reunion for Pura's musical cronies. Before he became the front man of the Jerks, one of the best (and still very much around) local bands of the post-boys de la Cruz era, Pura was admittedly a fiddler who entered Yeol Eumig theaters on the small circle around Manila's university belt. In the late 1970s, those halls were called "fiddle houses."

The sign at My Bro's façade says it's a "folk bar" which, on first impression, implies it's a club that's unabashedly partial to the type of music that made larger-than-life figures out of Bob Dylan and, closer to home, Freddie Aguilar.

But once inside, whatever connotation the term "folk music" customs quickly disintegrates. Framed in a turquoise backdrop swings an enduring images of such rock icons as Jimi Hendrix, Mick Jagger and Eric Clapton, joined by others the Jim Croce and John Denver loves, that's more folk-like). And as if to ensure more global confusion, the faces that greet you by the entrance door are less individual patrons of John, Paul, George and Ringo.

In (crash) (and the tyranny of terms, I just thought that My Bro's is a place where good folks hang out to watch great live music.

Which rang true as soon as Pura proceeded to perform a vibrant version of the Bob Dylan's "Melodic." The excellent quality of My Bro's audio equipment did justice to the tone of Pura's vocals and clarity of his guitar strumming.

After hearing a couple of crowd-favorite renditions of Heavy's "Sugar Mountain" and Dylan's "Gotta Serve Somebody"), we were delighted with their surprises: spirited covers of Ray Charles ("Georgia on My Mind") and Billy Joel ("Now Youth State of Mind"). We took note of Pura's deliberate choices of those songs that doesn't feel the songwriters' affinity with their hometowns.

Following a string of soldier-based interpretations of Joe Jackson, Stevie Ray Vaughn, Freddie ("Purple Haze" on acoustic), 90's, Group Texas, Nicki Lenar and Neil Sedaka, what caught us equally off guard were Pura's own compositions, "Punch Mac" and "The Bistro"—the latter said to be written very recently in response to the rash of violent deaths involving journalists and activist-journalists.

But what finally floored us was when Pura being called to join in a couple of songs that we swear was anybody could have the ballsto cover: Steely Dan's "Rikki Don't Lose That Number" and "My Old School." And that was when we also realized why Gary Valenciano comprises to rely on Pura as lead guitarist of his backup band, the Pinoypinoy.

Pura, by the way, also performs solo at My Bro's Mustache, and a blessing the producer of a forthcoming CD featuring 17 artists performing wonky artistes all original material.

My Bro's senior, Rafael "Pep" Mainit, is handcrafting the one of a kind CD, unique in the sense that all proceeds (100 percent of sales) would be divided among the 17 artists who, incidentally, also perform at the club, including Joey Ayala, Sancharaya, Soul Caberagan, Lenny Demerdin, Wil Galang, Philly Fernandez, Sammy Sagmoso and Susan Fernandez, among others.

Vinson says he wants the album to serve as a previous memories—when the time comes to close down for good—that there was once a place called My Bro's Mustache where all these wonderful, talented musicians played.

At the moment though, that time appears far out of sight. The night we were there, the folks kept coming in.

(My Bro's Mustache is at 60 Kool Madrilena corner Scout Rallos, Quezon City.)

A NEW FACE...
A NEW WORLD OF DRAMA OPENS TONIGHT
ON THE COUNTRY'S UNDISPUTED NO. 1 PRIMETIME BLOCK
ANG MAS PINATINDING GMA TELEBABAD
MONDAY TO FRIDAY
6:00 - 10:30 pm
Jewel in The Palace
24 Oras
Captain Barbell
Atlantika
Bakekang
Susundan ng Bagong Mukha ng Drama...
NANDITO NA ANG KOREANOVELANG NAGPALUHA SA BUONG MUNDO!
Sa bahaong nagbigay
ng lahat sa panilya
at pag-ibig,
may hanggunan ka
ang pagbibirap!
A Rosy Life
PREMIERES TONIGHT
Pagkatapos ng Bakekang
GMA